

VUE Weekly

EDMONTON'S URBAN VOICE

Glyconutrients

Does a spoonful of fiction
help the medicine go down?

By Dan Rubinstein • 6



Travelling in **Italy** affords
many little surprises • 16



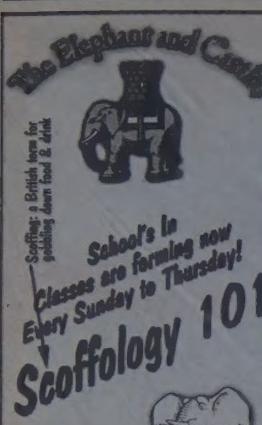
Spontaneous sitar in **Symphony
Under the Sky** • 30



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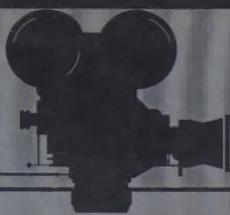
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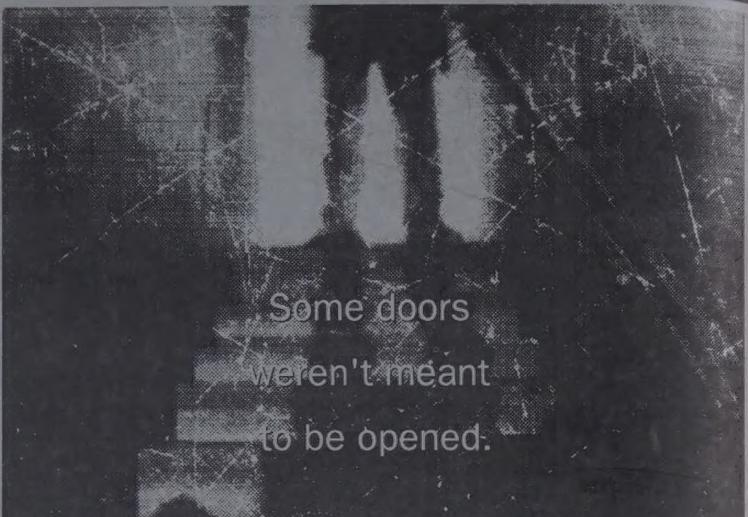
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Glyconutrients • 6

According to Texas-based pharmaceutical company Mannatech, Inc., the human body requires eight carbohydrates in order to prevent degenerative disease. Two of them are supplied by our basic diet, and specially engineered dietary supplements can help our bodies produce the other six. And more than that: according to Mannatech's official literature, a faithful regimen of their line of "glyconutrients" can combat everything from heart disease to attention deficit disorder to diabetes, dyslexia and cancer. But these extravagant claims are disputed by a growing body of evidence from the medical establishment, who say Mannatech is relying on anecdotal evidence and shoddy, biased scientific research to prop up their sales pitch; and from consumer watchdog organizations, who point to the shady past of Mannatech's president and the company's dubious Amway-like distribution system. Mannatech has over 400,000 independent distributors who believe wholeheartedly in their products, but as *Vue Weekly* news editor Dan Rubenstein found out, the truth about Mannatech may be too bitter a pill for them to swallow.

Cover illustration by Matt Bromley

Platinum Blonde • 22

Mark Holmes has new band, No. 9, but chances are it won't have the impact of his old combo: the influential '80s hit machine Platinum Blonde. But rather than turn his back on his past, Holmes has chosen to embrace it—he's released a Blonde greatest-hits package and cheerfully talks about the good old days of big hair, arena rock and gorgeous women in white dresses pounding rhythmically against closed doors with their elbow-length white gloves.



Nights of Cabiria • 32

After taking a well-earned August vacation, Metro Cinema has returned for another year of high-quality alternative movies. September begins with a restored version of Federico Fellini's 1957 classic *Nights of Cabiria*, starring the amazing Giulietta Masina as a Chaplinesque Italian prostitute. The film was adapted into the hit Broadway musical *Sweet Charity* a few years later, but Fellini's luminous treatment of the story is infinitely more lyrical.

Classical Music • 30

As public education turns away from classical music education, the whole genre is at a crossroads: fewer people exposed to Mozart and Beethoven means a declining audience in the future. The Edmonton Symphony Orchestra does its part to develop audiences with the decidedly non-stuffy five-day *Symphony Under the Sky* festival. Alongside Vivaldi and Tchaikovsky is sitarist Shujaat Husain, who'll show that even classical music can be utterly spontaneous and full of variety.



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Glyconutrients: miracle or quackery?

Mannatech's claims not backed by evidence, history

BY DAN RUBINSTEIN

The video opens with dramatic footage of soldiers engaged in fierce combat. Bombs explode, choppers take off, machine guns rattle. There is a war going on, the stone-voiced narrator declares, a war against illness and disease.

In the fight against modern-day degenerative ailments, he says, our cells must communicate with each other—much like an army needs effective internal communication during a real war. The human body requires eight carbohydrates for cell communication. But we only get two of them in our basic diet; the other six are created by our bodies. If we take a dietary supplement, however, we can get the remaining half dozen. And glyconutrients—which could be “the health news of the century,” according to our trusty narrator—are there for us.

Glyconutrients, the video says, are proving to be effective treatment for a myriad of different health problems:

heart disease, cancer, asthma, sleep deprivation, alcoholism, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, diabetes, hepatitis C, chronic fatigue syndrome, canker sores, herpes, arthritis, dyslexia, low sex drive, lupus, Alzheimer’s and more. “No matter what your current health status is,” the narrator says, “you can benefit from this discovery. At last, we now have the power to win the war for wellness. Victory is at hand, as long as we choose to act.”

At the end of *Winning the Battle Within: Breakthroughs in Preserving Health*, after the last of the credits scrolls away, the Mannatech Inc. corporate logo is finally revealed.

Pills are popping

Last month, Calgary physician Dr. Brian Spence delivered a seminar in Edmonton about glyconutrients and the battle against diseases caused by immune system dysfunction, which he feels are reaching epidemic proportions worldwide. From September 16-18, Coppell, Texas-based Mannatech is holding a “National Freedom Weekend” conference focusing on glyconutrients at the Shaw Convention Centre. According to the company’s literature, their supplements are non-toxic and have no drug interactions while regulating one’s immune system and increasing antiviral activity. This cutting-edge discovery, Mannatech says, is predicted to be the front-runner in a \$27-billion industry.

Spence is one of the few Canadian doctors with the “courage” to come forward and talk about the benefits of glyconutrients, says Heidi Kuhse, an independent Mannatech associate selling the company’s wares in Edmonton. Pharmaceutical firms don’t want this alternative therapy publicized, she says, and doctors like Spence offer their testimony despite the risk of alienating themselves from the medical community at large. To Kuhse, that’s evidence both of fierce strong convictions and of the prod-

ucts’ effectiveness. There are currently more than 400,000 independent distributors like Kuhse pushing Mannatech’s products in the United States, Canada and Australia. Armed with sales kits that include promotional literature, video and audio tapes, price lists and order forms, they hawk the magic elixirs to friends, colleagues and whoever else will listen. It’s a pyramid sales technique known as multilevel marketing (MLM)—does the name Amway ring a bell?—and most people who sell are also users. One of their hot products is called Ambrotose. It’s blended from eight sugars and costs roughly \$55 for a bottle of 60 tablets.

A nightmare on MLM street

Becoming an independent sales rep gives you the opportunity to buy wholesale and sell retail, writes Dr. Stephen Barrett, an American physician who runs a watchdog website called Quackwatch. “Often they have tried the products, concluded they work, and become suppliers to support their habit,” he says of the typical case. “Millions of Americans have signed up, including many physicians attracted by the idea that selling MLM products can offset losses attributable to managed care.”

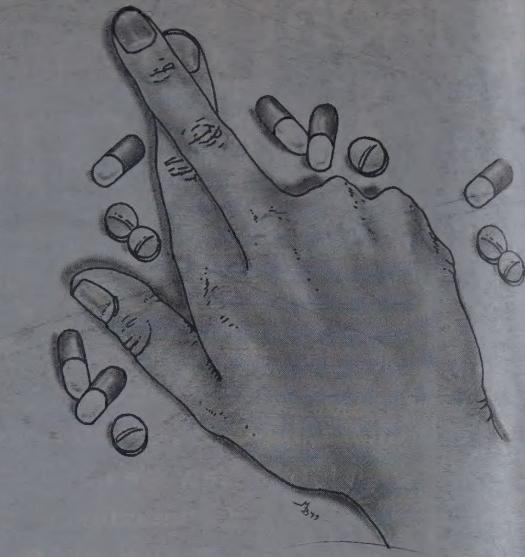
Kuhse got involved with Mannatech when their products began to improve her young son’s health. Although she must be careful about what she says (Mannatech regulations dictate that she be “in compliance” with the company), Kuhse tells me that her son was often sick and didn’t sleep well for the first four and a half years of his life. Then she gave him glyconutrients and he slept until 7:30 a.m. “We’re noticing a general improvement in his health and well-being,” she says. “He doesn’t get sick as much any more. And he bounces back much quicker if he does pick things up.”

Kuhse says her role as an independent associate essentially involves “spreading the good news” about Mannatech. She recently attempted to do that during a presentation to a group of University of Alberta graduate nutrition students. She gave a talk, made literature available and showed the *Winning the Battle Within: Breakthroughs in Preserving Health* video. Most of the students couldn’t believe their eyes.

Hold on—you shouldn’t drink more beer?

“They’re selling their products based on scientific evidence that’s been taken out of context,” charges Amid Bowen, a Ph.D. student in the U of A’s Nutritional and Metabolic Research Group. With no government regulations controlling the sale of glyconutrients and other nutraceuticals, he sees companies making health claims that, while they might not be entirely untrue, certainly haven’t been proven. To Bowen, the Mannatech pitch is akin to saying beer has vitamins, vitamins are good for you, therefore you should drink more beer.

“Every product out there has nutritional benefits,” he says, “but you have to look at the overall picture. As scientists, we’re always supposed to have references and journals and data to back up what we’re saying. They’re using anecdotal



al evidence. And people will say anything when it comes to money.”

Geoff Ball, another U of A grad student, saw an earlier Mannatech presentation at the Shaw Convention Centre in May. There were 2,000 people in attendance, and Ball was shocked at the way the charismatic Dr. Stephen Nugent, president of the International Association of Complementary Medicine, tried to, Ball says, “pull the wool over the eyes of unsuspecting Edmontonians.” When Ball approached Nugent after his talk and asked for the name of the scientific journal where an article referred to by Nugent had appeared, the doctor told Ball he “reads so many research articles” that he couldn’t recall that one article’s source. “The manner in which he was whisked away from the podium after his talk,” Ball says, “made it painfully apparent that he was unwilling to entertain any real questions from people in the audience.”

Below See level

It’s not only nutrition students who are questioning Mannatech’s ethics. David Evans, a journalist with Bloomberg business news, has uncovered a wealth of damning information in his investigative reports. Mannatech has been promoting its supplements with a study “it says was partially funded by a U.S. government agency and conducted under the auspices of a California medical school,” Evans wrote earlier this month. “Yet the National Institutes of Health, the federal agency the study cites, denies it sponsored the research. And school officials said they’ve been unable to find evidence the study, published in February, was ever performed.”

The study’s author is identified as Darryl See of the University of California at Irvine Medical School. “What it doesn’t say,” Evans writes, “is that the 39-year-old medical doctor resigned 11 months ago after admitting he violated research rules. It also doesn’t say he got more than \$100,000 from Mannatech in speaker fees and research grants since 1998, and that his wife has been a Mannatech distributor since 1997.”

Mannatech, which was founded by president Sam Caster in 1993, had sales of nearly \$125 million in the first nine months of

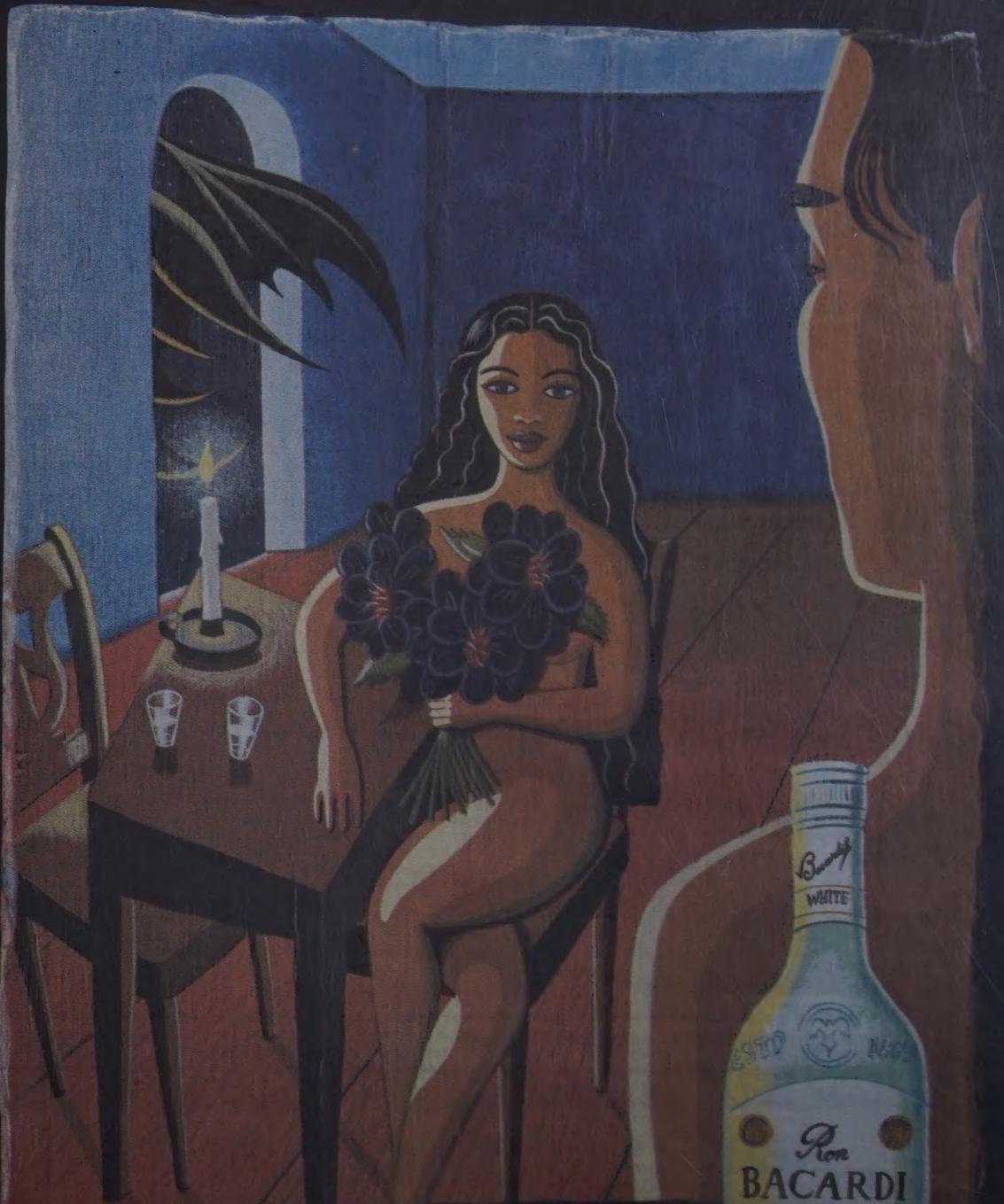
1998. The company went public on February 11, 1999—two days later, shares had skyrocketed from \$8 to \$44.50, valuing the business at more than \$1 billion. But as a swirl of controversy began to envelop Mannatech, shares plummeted to less than \$8 by last week, dropping to company’s value to approximately \$185 million.

Angles and insects

When Mannatech made its initial public offering of shares, Evans reports, it told potential buyers it didn’t know if its products were safe—or even if they worked. In the share-sale prospectus, the company said there was no assurance the supplements “even when used as directed, will have the effects intended, or not have harmful side effects.” Evans has also delved into Caster’s shady past. In 1991, the Mannatech president ran a company called Eagle Shield Inc., which was ordered by the Texas attorney general to stop selling a high-frequency-emitting anti-insect device it made. “This device is a hoax and stands on the same scientific footing as a perpetual motion machine,” assistant attorney general William Goodman said at the time.

Independent associates like Heidi Kuhse say Mannatech and other nutraceutical firms just want to get their information into a public forum. For too long, they say, the medical industry has relied on the conventional wisdom of conservative doctors and the marketing dominance of greedy pharmaceutical firms. “I think everybody should have access to all the information that’s out there,” says Kuhse, “so we can look at the research that’s available in an open-minded way.”

But with no independent body regulating that information and research, Amid Bowen points out, the public can easily fall victim to untrue or grossly exaggerated claims. In the long run, that will do more than waste our money. It might steer us away from the fundamentals of good health: a balanced diet and proper exercise. It might convince us to seek the quick fix, trapping us in an expensive cycle of dependency. “When you see stuff like this,” says Bowen, “you should start running the other way.”



The Dark White Spirit



Betty Nordin's poetry takes Wing

Book draws upon poet's former life on the streets

BY DAN RUBINSTEIN

After struggling to escape more than a dozen soul-scratching years on the streets of Calgary and Edmonton, it was the sim-

ple things that were Betty Nordin's toughest obstacle. She'd fought hard to gain the upper hand in her battle against alcohol and drugs. No longer did she wake from a drunken slumber on the ground ringed by cops; she had finally begun to care again what month it was. Instead, her real struggles involved paying bills and paying rent. Even keeping a clean apartment was a new concept for her. "I didn't know the first thing

about going to the laundromat," Nordin recalls with a wry chuckle. "I had to get somebody to show me how to use the washing machine."

Today, those sobering struggles of a decade ago may be an amusing memory, but Nordin certainly hasn't glossed over the time she spent living on the fringe of urban Alberta. In fact, it's her inspiration. It's the reason she walks the streets of Edmonton's inner city to lend a helping hand—or a listening ear—to whoever might be in need. And it's the creative source of her first collection of poems, *Wing Tips*, which the Bissell Centre is publishing as part of its Songs of the Street program.

"I lived on the streets. I know

these people. There are some images that are so vivid in my mind," says Nordin. "You see it and you live with it all the time. You don't forget. So I'm trying to pass it on to other people... I guess writing poetry is as close as I'm going to get to writing about my life."

Survival Tips

Nordin began putting pen to paper about 18 months ago, when she submitted a poem for the Bissell Centre's annual poetry night contest. That piece was included in their yearly anthology, and she continued to write at a feverish pace. Now her poems form the first body

books

profile

of work by an individual street poet to be released in book form.

Wing Tips is dedicated to Mary Burlie, a late Edmonton social worker who Nordin credits with turning her life around. "She just let me know I had a purpose," says Nordin. "She saw something in me I wasn't seeing. It gave me hope... It took many years for that little seed Mary Burlie gave me to grow full. But eventually it happened."

Nordin cleaned herself up, went to school and got her Grade 11 equivalency. She had always read a lot—newspapers, magazines, novels, anything that told her about the world around her. Now she writes about a world we all know exists, but few of us know well.

Beggar the imagination

With clear, direct language and simple yet evocative structure, Nordin's poems strike at the loneliness and despair of life on the streets. "Musicians of the street/They wear stage clothes or tattered cloth," she writes in a poem called "Twenty-Five Cents," a piece about the rhythm of a beggar's life. In another, called "The Bar," she describes the scene in a crowded tavern at mid-afternoon: "As I looked around the bar, it's still the same;/Only different faces, different people/With the same anger, despair and pain/Of the streets of yesterday and today."

Harris says he uses the word "homosexuality" just once in his forthcoming book, which bears the tentative title *The Aesthetics of Consumerism*. But homosexuality and the declining culture it begat is—go figure—all he and I talk about.

"Oppression is at the root of our identity," Harris explains. "We created things considered proverbially 'gay' [by] striking back against our philistine oppressors. Once that oppression is alleviated, though,

the whole need for this gay sensibility is cast into doubt and dissolves. We are now on that threshold. But I also regret the emergence of the new wholesome, business-oriented homosexual party line and the loss of our interest in things like camp which was a result of our ostracism."

The fall of camp—taking the serious frivolously and the frivolous seriously—is directly related to the rise of "respectable" gay life.

"Before there were gay politicians and activists, there were actresses, singers and movie stars; and they provided a form of gay politics in the absence of really mature gay politics and they did that by providing us with

SEE PAGE 15

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Three dollar BILL

BY RICHARD BURNETT

Dial-a-homo

I tried everything except blowing Conrad Black to kick-start my journalism career, and I quickly learned I had to develop a niche. So being "out" was my way in.

Five years later, I'm still, unbelievably, Canada's only queer-issues columnist outside the gay press.

But now that I'm in I can't get the hell out. Need a gay pundit or panelist, or a writer to shore up your Pride coverage or someone to cover fashion, entertainment or lifestyle issues? Call Richard. But if you need a hard-news investigative reporter, dial a het.

It's a paradox shared by prize-winning American essayist and critic Daniel Harris, author of the internationally acclaimed book *The Rise and Fall of Gay Culture*, now available in paperback.

"That's what I didn't like about writing this book," Harris tells me over the phone from his Brooklyn digs. "One of the privileges and outcomes of gay liberation is that gay intellectu-

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VUE News

YOUR ALTERNATIVE GUIDE TO WHAT'S REALLY GOING ON...

POVERTY

Street beat to meet

EDMONTON—Many industry association conventions that pop into town involve a volatile combination of expense accounts and business people at play in an unfamiliar city. While they may offer a boost to the local economy, there are often negative aspects to consider—for instance, packs of drunken men with name tags roaming the streets.

One convention coming to Edmonton next year, however, promises to have a completely different vibe.

From July 20-23, *Our Voice*, the city's spare change magazine, will host the 2000 North American Street Newspaper Conference. Approximately 150 representatives of 75 different street publications, all members of the North American Street Newspaper Association (NASNA), are expected to attend the conference, which is being staged by the Bissell Centre and Edmonton Tourism.

"The street paper movement is a great anti-poverty movement that strengthens the ability of each project in each city to remain sustainable and provide an important voice and economic opportunity for people who are poor and homeless," says Michael Walters, the managing editor of *Our Voice*. "It will also add legitimacy to our magazine if people see there are many other cities doing the same thing as we are."

The NASNA has existed since 1996, and next year's event will be its fifth conference. Previous meetings have been hosted by *StreetWise* of Chicago, *Seattle's Real Change*, *Journal L'itinéraire* of Montreal and Cleveland's *The Homeless Grapevine* last July. —DAN RUBINSTEIN

CRIME

Lest we forget

EDMONTON—On December 6, the tenth anniversary of the Montreal massacre, a permanent monument to the 14 women killed by Marc Lepine at L'École Polytechnique will be dedicated in Edmonton.

Work has already begun at the monument site, located in Mary Buelie Park at the corner of 97 St and 105 Ave. Once complete, the memorial will feature 15 trees—one for each of the women murdered in Montreal and one representing all other victims of violence against women—as well as a statue by a local artist and a series of plaques.

For the last nine years, the annual ceremony to remember the massacre has bounced between numerous locations in the city. In many cases, the location one year was deemed unsuitable or simply turned out to be unavailable the next.

The new monument is not only intended to be an annual gathering spot, says Del Marlow of the organizing committee, it's also meant to serve as a place where survivors, family and friends of victims and other interested people can go throughout the year to remember, reflect and renew their commitment to ending violence against women.

"SCARY AS HELL!!!"

In 1987 The Reform Party of Canada was formed with the intention of giving the west a voice in Ottawa. 10 years later their platform had disappeared in a wash of red tape and bureaucracy...

In 1999 what remained of their policies were found.

I AM SO SCARED...

THE UNITED ALTERNATIVE PROJECT

GRISWOLD

"We've made great strides in the last 10 years," says Marlow, "but there's still a long way to go. That's what the monument will be there to say."

The concrete sculpture, which is being created by local artist Michelle Mitchell, will depict three female figures flowing together. One will be in a prone position, to represent despair. Another will be on her knees, to represent grief. The third will be standing with her arms reaching high as a sign of hope.

Anyone interested in making a financial contribution to the project, which is partially financed by grants from the Kristie Foundation and the Alberta Foundation for the Arts, can contact Marlow by phone at 423-4102 or by fax at 421-8734. —DAN RUBINSTEIN

BUSINESS

Air merger could leave some stranded

OTTAWA—The federal New Democrats are worried that a proposed merger of Canadian Airlines and Air Canada could leave smaller Canadian centres in the cold.

"Any restructuring would have to provide strong guarantees that service to smaller communities and regions would not be sacrificed; that consumers would not be the victims of price gouging; that employees in the new firm would have stable futures; and that the federal government would still have some say over the larger contours of policy and strategic direction in the airline industry," said Nelson Riis, the NDP's business and industry critic.

Riis said if Air Canada accepts the merger deal and the Liberals green-light the plan, it'd be in the public interest for the feds to keep a share in the new mega-airline in order to ensure service continues along Canada's less-travelled routes.

"The federal government should be exploring ways to retain a special equity ownership position in the company," he said.

Canadian Airlines badly needs the bail-out; it is \$500 million in the hole and in danger of becoming a part of aviation history. Toronto-based Onex Corp. has received financing from the parent company of American Airlines, which already

owns a 25 per cent share of Canadian, to merge the perennial money-losers with Air Canada. If the merger goes through, an estimated 5,000 jobs in both airlines would be cut.

Gerald Schwartz, chairman of Onex, is a card-carrying Liberal supporter and has generously supported past Grit election campaigns. But the Liberals have little power to do anything but rubber-stamp the deal. Air Canada was privatized in 1989 and doesn't have the same dire need to merge as Canadian. The privatization makes it almost impossible for the feds to get back in the airline business, as suggested by Riis.

"We all know the Canadian airline industry cannot maintain the status quo," said Schwartz. "This is the time for a bold step." —STEVEN SANDOR

Day passes gas buck

EDMONTON—Provincial treasurer Stockwell Day warned the oilpatch last week that if it doesn't rein in prices, Albertans will begin supporting opposition calls for price controls.

"If consumers think the price is going up unfairly to them, it creates an opportunity for those who want to leap in with price controls of some kind," Day told the *Calgary Herald*.

Day's shocker came in the wake of Federal Industry Minister John Manley's announcement that it was up to the provinces to control gasoline prices.

According to the Canadian Petroleum Communication Foundation, the average Canadian pays 62 cents per litre at the pumps. Prices have been rising steadily over the last two months, with the petroleum giants saying a "price correction" was needed across the board.

The price hikes are almost enough to force the average Albertan onto a bike. Almost. The provincial Liberals are calling for the Tories to reduce the provincial gas tax of 9¢ a litre. —STEVEN SANDOR

EDUCATION

West Ed(ucation) Mall

EDMONTON—For those of you who find those "shopper in training" flags on kiddie-sized shopping carts disturbing, here's another link between

consumerism and education that will raise the hairs on your neck.

The West Edmonton Mall's fourth annual "Be True to Your School" campaign is in full swing.

From August 9 until September 5, one point will be awarded to any school, from elementary through to high school, for every dollar spent in the mall. Shoppers—be they students, their friends or relatives—can collect points for their favourite school by taking West Ed receipts to the visitor information centre.

At the end of the campaign, the school with the most points will win \$10,000 in cash and Galaxyland passes for the entire school! (That exclamation mark was in the press release, by the way, so I felt duty-bound to repeat it.) A total of \$26,000 in cash will be awarded to the top five schools! (My exclamation mark this time.)

"Many schools are challenged financially when it comes to providing much needed programs for their students," the mall's general manager, Gary Hanson, writes in the release. "This is just one more way West Edmonton Mall can give back to the community."

Interestingly, "there's no coordination between the school board and the 'Be True to Your School' program," Edmonton Public School communications assistant Jane Farrell told *Vue Weekly*. "It looks like it's just a shopping enticement by the mall."

As of August 30, Meadowlark Christian was winning the race with 48,974 points. That doesn't translate directly into \$48,974 in spending, however. There are "double points" coupons available in the *Edmonton Journal*, who sponsored the contest along with Power 92, Red's and the new IMAX theatre.

In the past three years, says Cynthia Hoy of the West Ed's marketing department, many of the winners have been schools without large student populations.

They've been invited to the mall to receive cheques, says mall media relations manager Travis Reynolds, or accepted prizes at informal school assemblies. Most have used the money to buy computers, books and other school essentials, he says.

Plus, adds Hoy, "it's a great way for the students to pull together." —DAN RUBINSTEIN

VUEPoint

BY LESLEY PRIMEAU

I've got mail

I occasionally get mail at work that makes me cringe—mail that is offensive, mail that is vile, mail that is threatening, mail that makes me wonder who pissed in these people's cornflakes. I received a letter this week that made me especially angry, however; not because it was vile (although it was), but because whoever wrote that profane piece of slime disguised as prose decided not to attach her name to it. It was written by a woman—or so I gathered from her reference to her husband (who apparently thinks I'm a bitch). I could forgive her failure to spell my name properly and to use proper grammar, but not her decision to hide her true identity, something I find completely cowardly.

My listeners are always free to send me mail, and even to use language even David Mamet would find unsuitable, while telling me that prostitutes and scumbags such as myself should move to B.C.—but I would hope that they'd feel secure enough in their beliefs to at least tell me their names. This latest letter-writer felt CHED should throw me off the air immediately, and speculated that the only way I got my job was by sleeping with the boss. She sang the praises of the premier and scoffed at injured workers, who she called "freeloaders." A well-informed citizen, to be sure.

I don't understand what possesses people to spend so much time and effort and money on a letter and then send it out anonymously. If your name is worth nothing, then the contents of your letter are worth the same amount. When people want to talk to me on the air at CHED, they have to provide me with a name. It could easily be fake, sure, but without one I won't talk to you.

A couple of weeks ago, a man called demanding information from me; when I asked him who he was, he told me it was none of my business, whereupon I reminded him the information he craved was none of his. Now, talk show hosts get their fair share of nutcases pestering them. For the most part, they're harmless, but occasionally you run across one who makes you wonder. Certainly, the letter bomb incident at the A-Channel gave all of us in the business pause. (I mean, what had the A-Channel ever done to anybody?) I have no love for cowards, but I have a healthy fear of nutcases.

As for the woman who wrote me: you claim you don't listen to my show. It's beyond me, then, how you know so much about it. In any case, lady, you have the ultimate power within your very reach: turn off the radio!

Lesley Primeau may be heard weekdays from 2-4 p.m. on 630 CHED.

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Oh, I'm just a Bill...

Four new books
shine light on the
geek tycoon

BY DAVE WATSON

When you look back on the past century—and I expect we will all spend a lot of time looking back and saying, "Wow, the 20th century! What were we all nuts?"—who will you recognize as the really important people? Which individuals will you pick as those whose influence on the course of events (for good or ill) cannot be denied? We could each compile a personal list of heroes and villains, those people who contributed to our own character development, but what about the people who affected the social order as a whole? What are the names of those folks whom you'd identify as having either directed the rudder of events or accidentally given it a good hard bump?

Some choices are clear even if the names aren't familiar, like the gaggle of inventors throughout the 1920s and '30s involved in the creation of television. Other times, a person's name persists long after exactly what he or she did drops from common knowledge. Edward R. Murrow? A TV news dude all the older news anchors speak of reverently. William Randolph Hearst? He

must have done a lot of things besides leading the media campaign against marijuana in the 1930s and inspiring Orson Welles to make *Citizen Kane*, but what else do you know about him?

And then there's Bill Gates. A quarter-century ago, he was a Harvard student in the fringe discipline of computer science, and now his worth is somewhere in the

high tech

him. He turns you into a fan of the underdog contenders and forces you adopt an "anyone but that guy" mentality. William Gates III is that same kind of cosmic lottery winner, finishing first in a race that most of us didn't even realize was being run.

Gates of heaven

What can I say? We are all failures if we stand next to Gates. For decades after he becomes just a brain preserved in a jar, people will debate the unique set of talents that he must have possessed to administer a world-conquering empire like Microsoft Corporation. His only notable slip-up so far has been his failure to recognize the importance of the Internet as

rapidly as a few other folks did—despite the fact he'd been using e-mail practically since the days when it was delivered via carrier pigeon. However, any glee over that turn of events evaporated when Gates proved how quickly he could redirect the efforts of his army of 20,000-plus employees. He marched them up to the top of that hill and then he marched them back down again.

SEE PAGE 13



neighbourhood of 100 billion American dollars. If he moved to Canada, we could shut down half the country without suffering a net loss in gross domestic product. He's just so damn successful that almost everyone wants him to fail. Even the computer people don't want

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Jewellery: now's a great time to be silver

Clothing stores try to keep up with the smiths

BY FRANCIS TÉTRAULT

The jewellery market is booming these days, but it isn't experiencing a gold rush. Today's trends lean toward silver

instead.

Silver jewellery design has come a long way from the mass-produced silver rings, imported from Mexican and Indonesian sweatshops, customarily sold at local festivals and street corners. Today's silver designs are unique, hand-crafted and more refined than those from the 1960s.

Thanks to the relatively inexpensive cost of silver (especially compared with gold) and the knowledge and experience artists have newly obtained from various silversmith courses, a new wave of silversmiths are creating innovative designs out of their basements and garages.

Indeed, increasing numbers of creative people—especially women—are going into jewellery design. For example, take Hammered and Pickled Metalworks, a cottage industry based in Vancouver's Grandville Island. Their shop features an open work area where visitors can watch the designers create everything from silver bracelets to silver swizzle sticks before their very eyes.

A jones for Bones

On the local market, there is Nicole Reeves, who has been creating custom silver designs out of her Bare Bones Studio for the last two years. Reeves, who has a background in education from Grant MacEwan and a B.F.A. from the University of Nova Scotia, divides her time between teaching at the Edmonton Art Gallery and her silversmithing work. Her specialty is pop culture designs, such as silver "James Bond" pins, but her urban style has also found its way into earrings, necklaces and more customized work.

Reeves's hard work, business acumen and unique sense of style have helped her creations find their way into several independent locales around Edmonton, including Graffiti (where they are sold on consignment), as well as Calgary and Victoria.

Meanwhile, larger retail outlets such as the Bay and Holt Renfrew and various high-end boutiques across Canada are also picking up work from hot silver designers; accessories are always a lucrative trade.

With little more than a hammer, a torch and a few blue wax ring moulds, Canadian silversmiths are proving they can strike gold with silver. ☀

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From top to bottom: Necklace with bloodstone, \$16; Kitty pendant, \$70; Starburst cufflinks, \$25; Star ring, \$70; Daisy ear rings, \$45 (Juliet of Allure Me Jewellery, Vancouver); Bracelet, \$26 (Tracy of Ice Jewellery Design, Edmonton).

Real glacier water is Köld.



Dip into a case of Köld,
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bigRock
BREWERY

High Tech*Continued from page 10*

The U.S. government has started to raise a fuss about his monopolistic proclivities, but that's just a temporary distraction. We are now leaving the political era of human dignity and moving firmly into the days of the corporate entity. Soon we will vote for Prime Minister Nike and Deputy PM Coca-Cola, and about the time we start selling the years to commercial sponsors, as David Foster Wallace predicts in *Infinite Jest*, a novel that starts in The Year of the Depend Undergarment and gets weirder from there, for 1,100 freaky pages.

So what about Bill Gates? I tell you, I'd trade his life for John Lennon's in an instant, but that's not an option we'll get a chance to explore in this universe. So we have to deal with him, with the concept of him, with his not-yet-measurable impact on all of us. I'm burying myself in four books to help me accept him and move on with my life. They all represent a piece of the

puzzle I'm wrestling with: Why him and not me?

It's always all about you, you, you

First of all, there's *Micromaniac* by J.R. McIntosh (Arsenal, \$14.95) and *\$11.95*. Subtitled *What Life Might Be Like If You Were Bill Gates*, it's written in the rare second-person form, as *Bright Lights Big City* was (i.e., the book describes how you'd do this on "your" lakefront property with "your" staff). It's satirical, of course, but really, try to picture being that wealthy. I'd be stacking Jaguars on top of Ferraris. As Hunter Thompson once said, "The rich are born free like dolphins."

Then there's *The Microsoft File* by Wendy Goldman Rohm (Times Business, \$35.95). It's subtitled *The Secret Case Against Bill Gates* and purports to document the business practices of Microsoft, based on various inside sources. Gates may not be the next Napoleon, but after reading some of the allegations in here, he may qualify as the second coming of Niccold Machiavelli.

Another angle is covered by *The Plot to Get Bill Gates* by Gary Rivlin (Times Business, \$36). Hey, it's got a subtitle, too: *An Irreverent Investigation of the World's Richest Man... And the People Who Hate Him*. It deals with the Silicon Valley, and what provides the context is the company Bill Gates built, the asserted power and other perks he's made up for himself and the stock options.

Bill's book is @rocious

Finally, we have the chance to examine the thoughts of the Gates himself in Windows mail: *I Consider the One and Only Billmeister In Business at the Speed of Light* (Warner Books, \$17.95), written by this little troll of a quipster genius to convey his vision of what his subtitle, *Using a Digital Network as System*, can really mean; it's a rather heady theoretical work, although it does address the avaricious goals of capitalist interests. This Gates guy really conceptualizes information—feels it, really—in a way few of us will really comprehend. And I'd still vote for him to take the bullet for John Lennon. ☺

Jigsaw*is hair.***JIGSAW** for hair

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Sports Notes

BY DAVID DICENZO

No ifs, ands or butts about it

Volleyball is one of the most entertaining sports you'll ever witness. It requires a multitude of athletic skills, from leaping to making powerful kills to using a delicate touch around the net. So with all of this action going on during virtually every point of a match, why is it that women who compete in this sport have to be as scantily clad as strippers on the beach, tanning between sets?

The portion of the first round of the World Junior Women's Volleyball Championship that was held at the University of Alberta earlier this week was nothing less than a disgrace. Never mind the pitiful attendance. Never mind the fact that the Canadian team sucked. What's appalling about this tournament, and women's volleyball in general, is that these girls' buttocks get more attention than do their superior volleyball skills.

The members of the Venezuelan team had their asses—er, faces—pasted all over the papers and television because of their, er, cheeky attire. What's worse is that the team from Italy was actually fined for wearing uniforms that weren't revealing enough. (Their shorts were considered too long and their shirts were deemed too baggy by International Volleyball Federation standards.) Excuse me? Isn't this the 20th, soon

to be 21st, century? Isn't anyone else appalled by this?

And hey, hang on a sec—I'm not even done yet. The last straw in all of this is the fact that we're talking about teenage girls, not adults who can make conscious decisions about what they feel comfortable in. (Not that the federation gives them a choice anyway.)

It is no less than perverted to ask a 17-year-old kid to go out and perform on the condition that she ensure every set of male eyes in the gym is focussed directly on her derriere. Women have a well-deserved place in sports—however, interest in women's sports shouldn't be predicated on what the women wear while participating.

Besides, when was the last time you saw a men's sport where all the guys jumped around in t-bars showing off their packages? Okay, aside from figure skating.

4 X 100 equals zero for Canada

The Canadian 4x100-metre relay team is as talented a foursome as you'll ever see. That makes it even tougher to swallow their idiotic behaviour at the World Track and Field Championships in Seville, Spain.

After bickering with each other about who would race in which slot, Bruny Surin, Donovan Bailey, Glenroy Gilbert and Trevor Betty botched their semi-final heat (rookie Betty mishandled the baton) and were disqualified from the event.

Sure, you can cite Betty for a bad case of butterfingers, but it was terrible chemistry that was to blame for the race's disastrous outcome. After running a stellar 9.84 in the 100-metre final that won him a silver medal, Surin felt he should run the

anchor, which is normally Bailey's job.

I'm riding the fence a little who should have run where he had a point that, as the fastest man of the bunch, he should run the rear, but then again, he broke, don't fix it. Canada got two world championship Olympic gold with Gilbert, Bailey, so there's an argument made that the order should remain intact.

Whatever the case, they should have had the resolve to stick to their guns—they all blasted each other. 4x100 team is left in shambles, always knew sprinters were cal, but c'mon, let's have you givin' sense.

And because of all that drivel, I had to watch Maurice Greene win another gold for the United States. (Insert sound of vomiting here.)

Adieu to Dino the dinosaur

I don't think throngs of people are sad at Dino Ciccarelli's retirement the way they were when Gretzky, Bower and Jordan called it quits. But . . . at least one fan who will feel a huge void as Dino leaves hockey after 19 seasons in the NHL.

Oh no, hell, it's not me—I can't stand the guy. It's a friend of mine who believes Ciccarelli was the oldest little bastard to ever lace up a pair of skates. He even carries Dino's rookie card around in his wallet—it's weird, eh?

But Colin, this one's for you. The record will show that Ciccarelli ended his NHL career with 608 goals, but I know he'll score a few more—they'll come every time my friend chooses the Florida Panthers when we play Nintendo 64's NHL '99. ☺

last year.

I've taken a different approach to golf this season. In 1998, I moped about not having my best friends to golf with, but in 1999 I've decided to get out for the joy of the game—and if it means driving down to the course all by my lonesome, then so be it. It might not be the same as a day out with the boys, but it's been enlightening and enjoyable in its own way.

Take a round I played last week. I ventured down to Victoria Park and asked if there was room for a single. The clubhouse dude matched me up with three much older gentlemen and as I approached the tee, I had a slight feeling of trepidation. These men were in their sixties or seventies and I'm perhaps the most immature 30-year old on the planet—what could we possibly have in common?

Well, golf—that's what.

Golf is a universal bond; within a few holes, once I showed my partners I could make some shots, Bill, Norm, Roger and I were chatting like we'd played a dozen rounds together. I wasn't this young kid golfing

with a bunch of old guys—we were simply a foursome out for a great day on the track.

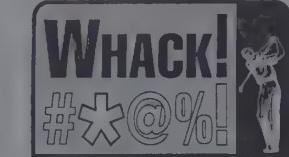
Even if you don't discuss personal things like work or relationships, golf has a language unto itself. Ever the talkative one, I came up with a few gems. After a poor strike with an iron which still left my ball in the middle of the fairway, I gave the trio one of my staple links quips.

"That was a Liz Taylor," I said.
The guys looked on, slightly puzzled.

"Fat, but still kinda pretty."
They chuckled.

By the 18th hole, Norm was asking me if I felt okay about out-driving him by 100 yards. (He modestly neglected to mention that virtually every one of his drives landed on the fairway while I was constantly toiling in the rough.) Man, I had a blast. It showed me that part of the beauty of this game is the common thread that links together the people who play it.

Oh, and out of respect to my elders, I kept the expletives to a minimum. But alas, Whack! Darn it, doesn't have the same oomph. ☺



BY DAVID DICENZO

Sprechen Sie golf?

I've been spending a lot of time lately thinking about why I golf. The game is on my mind a good portion of the day so I figured I should know exactly why I have this fixation.

I used to think it was the camaraderie that got me out on the links. My memories of golfing with my best pals back home are priceless—it certainly is a great feeling when I play a round with guys like "Satch" Kurchik or Billy DeMille while jawing about stuff like work, women and sports while haulin' on stogies. But those friends are thousands of kilometres away. It really struck me how far I was from them when I got out golfing a mere seven or eight times

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Three Dollar Bill

Continued from page 8

a method of establishing allegiance through a common taste in a star," Harris reasons. "When people ask me why gay men love Judy Garland, I believe the answer is they didn't like Judy Garland so much as they liked the men in her audience. Judy Garland was really just a magnet who brought together an immense audience and created political cohesion among a diverse group of men and women."

Queer critics had no problem when Harris attacked "postgay" fags for ridiculing our icons. When Harris credited capitalism with laying the economic groundwork for gay liberation, though, hardcore gay and lesbian activists denounced him from their pulpits.

"People who criticize me tend to be gay liberationists who want to believe gay liberation was the result of crusading heroes and heroines," he says. "I say [gay lib] was a conjunction of political efforts and [the fact that] we're an attractive niche-market."

The assimilation of the gay community into the larger heterosexual mainstream is clearly irreversible. But there's always a price to pay.

"I am bored shitless by the gay community. I regret the loss of our gay visibility and I loathe the insipidity of the contemporary homosexual," says Harris, who's also had it with red ribbons, coming-out books, rainbow flags, Pride parades, gay men' choruses and Mr. Leather contestants. "We're letting it happen to ourselves for the simple reason we want happy lives. I don't blame people for that because, like everybody

else. I want my cake and I want to eat it too. And I'm going to. I've never set myself apart from the things I write about. In fact, I am the worst compulsive gym bunny in the world."

Harris may have overdosed on everything gay, but dammit, like the rest of us, he needs another hit. Look no further than his circle of friends. "It's almost 100 per cent gay," he says, although he adds, "I'd like to have more straight friends because I know they live sad and lonely lives."

He laughs. "I would like to have

more straight friends and people who raise children just for the sake of diversity. But I have a problem maintaining close friendships with straight males because, like so many gay men, I end up flirting with them. Do you find that?"

"Sometimes," I reply, even though at least half my friends are straight. They all enjoy talking about gay life and—not to assuage heterosexual guilt—they love me more when I do, too.

And that's because we're friends. In fact, I think I'm assimilating them. ☀



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Notes from one
woman's viaggio in
Italia

BY MICHELLE ZACK

Europe's boot has it all: popes, painters, pizza, Pisa. Italy's three-millennia-long history of tradition, culture and cuisine seduces most everyone. A visitor to Italy can visit Roman ruins, gaze at Renaissance art, stay in tiny medieval hill towns, go downhill skiing in the Alps, explore the canals of Venice and tour indescribably beautiful churches along the way, not to mention indulging in the more elementary pleasures of Italian food, wine and gelato, or improving one's wardrobe in a country that's a world-renowned fashion paradise.

Michelangelo, Donatello, Raphael and Leonardo: long before

the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles ever appeared, they were the names of some of the world's most gifted artists—all Italian. Italy has been accurately called the world's living art gallery; no reproduction can compare to being in Florence and staring eye-level at the, how shall we say, appendage of Donatello's David. (Michelangelo's version, incredible as it may seem, is much more generous.)

Even the buildings in Italy are magnificent works of art; virtually every town square contains an interesting fountain or lavish palace, and virtually every narrow street hides some ancient courtyard.

In Rome, it's fascinating to see how the city's many glorious historical monuments coexist with a thriving population of people busily going about their everyday lives. Getting lost in Rome is the best way to discover its treasures, but first-time visitors will want to pay a visit to the Trevi Fountain, where, legend has it, a return visit to Rome can be ensured by tossing a coin into it or taking a quick sip of its fresh waters. Also while in Rome, be sure to visit the expensive (but well worth the cost) Coliseum, where wild beasts once chased men through a maze—sometimes to their death—for sport.

Land of Pope and glory

Of course, Rome also contains Vatican City—despite its name, actually a country—which in turn houses the Pope, as well as some of the most famous works of art in the world. Walking into St. Peter's Basilica is an incredible experience for people of any religion. The massive, lifelike statues, the never-ending columns of marble and the gold finishing touches. It is mind-boggling to conceive of all the careful hours of work that went into creating this masterpiece.

Alongside St. Peter's stands the Sistine Chapel. It's almost a tease to have to walk through the maze of art-lined halls and hordes of people before you reach the building's main attraction: Michelangelo's ceiling frescoes, which achieve such a convincingly three-dimen-



Apparatus of Michelangelo's David

sional appearance that it's hard to believe that the paintings, especially *The Creation of Adam*, are on a flat plane.

Northern Italy is typified by Venice. The city's natural beauty arises from its calm waters, especially the famous canals that separate it into 117 small islands and take the place of roads. There's no noise from car horns or rattling mufflers here; just the faint hum of the boats and the occasional splash of a gondola oar. The harmonious architecture of Venice, much of which dates from between the 12th and 16th centuries, gives the city a magical atmosphere all year long, especially during the annual Carnivale.

Cinque or swim

One of Italy's hidden jewels is Cinque Terre (literally, "five lands"), five small villages (Riomaggiore, Manarola, Corniglia, Vernazza and Monterosso), each perched on high

cliffs on the Mediterranean Sea in northwestern Italy, which provide welcome break from the big cities. Popular pastimes for travellers here include water sports, hiking through the olive groves and vineyards that line the mountains in between each of the five towns and admiring the beautiful scenery and quaint buildings, all of them painted in vibrant colours with green trim.

It's practically compulsory for Italian tourists to pay a visit to the Leaning Tower of Pisa, which currently sits at such an extreme angle that, disappointingly, no one is allowed inside anymore, and cables have been deployed to keep it upright... or, at least, leaning.

Italy has something to offer every traveller, from bustling metropolises to serene rural villages. Just don't forget to pause in your busy sightseeing schedule and reflect over an espresso at one of Italy's many cafés. Most Italians practice this ritual regularly. And after all, when in Rome... ☺

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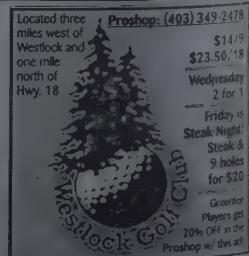
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020
DAYS

BY DAVID GOBEIL TAYLOR

Nope; nothing's sacred

All right, it's official: I have now seen everything.

Last week, the American Bankers' Association, a trade group to which 90 per cent of U.S. banks belong, decided to get the word out that everything's OK for Y2K. But they decided to try something different from the usual press-release dispatch; after all, it's been widely reported for months that they consider themselves millennium-bug-free and their customers' savings safeguarded, so the usual bank blurb was likely to be downplayed or even ignored by the media as just another ho-hum assurance. Plus, the public recognizes the banks' obvious vested interest in keeping everyone calm: a run on the banks by people liquidating their accounts "just in case" presents a much more serious potential financial problem for them than a mass breakdown of all their computers.

Instead, they decided to turn to the grassroots, and have their message spread by someone who—unlike the media—is likely to be implicitly trusted by John Q. Public. So they distributed their information to the clergy—in person, no less. In the States bank employees tend to be community-established, civic-minded, church-going folk, so the association asked them to distribute some material to their priests, ministers, rabbis, pastors, shamans and what have you.

But this was no press release; it was a sermon. Literally. That's right five pages of text that could be read verbatim to congregations, reassuring them that their money is safe right where it is. And it puts quite a few words into the preachers' mouths: "I'm not worried about America's ability to solve the technical problems of Y2K. But there is something that does worry me: misinformation... [and] the kind of panic that comes from not knowing. Not understanding. Not getting it." (At least the ABA's copywriters know their rhetorical devices, like repetition. Reiteration. Rhythm. Sentence fragments. Without verbs.)

And lest parishioners catch on that there's something a little unusual about this sermon—like that fact that it's more concerned with savings accounts than it is with saving souls—they toss in a few forced, jejune

Biblical references (from the Old Testament/Torah, of course; heaven for bid—pun intended—they have to write different sermons for different faiths). The Y2K bug is compared to original sin, and in an incredibly hyperbolic Exodus metaphor, the banks are Moses while doomsayers are the Pharaoh. (I can't imagine a man or woman of the cloth not seeing red about this Red Sea sacrifice.)

And they save the most surreal passage for last: "Trust God... and take a few practical steps." Trust God? The message is to trust the banks. Evidently the ABA considers them one and the same.

Two thousand or so years ago a middle-aged (for that era) man named Yeshua ben Joseph (later Hellenized to Jesus Christ) reportedly threw moneyenders out of the temple. And after two millennia of human progress, they're back—but they're not just lending money, they're writing copy.

Perhaps they should have heeded the advice of one of the Bible's original bumf writers: Matthew, the evangelist—and the patron saint of bankers. In his gospel, chapter 6, verse 24, he writes: "No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon."

Amen. ☺

Cultural festival conjugates Latin

Latin Fest '99: *veni, vidi, vici*

BY DAN RUBINSTEIN

"I was recently on a tour of Latin America," former U.S. vice president Dan Quayle supposedly once said, "and the only regret I have was that I didn't study Latin harder in school so I could converse with those people." Actually, that's an urban legend; Quayle may have been dumb, but not that dumb. (Mind you, one thing he did say about Latin America was that "the U.S. has a vital interest in that area of the country.") Another true quotation, and one that's infinitely more helpful, is by poet and philosopher Ralph Waldo Emerson: "Life is a festival only to the wise."

On September 4 and 5, life will be a festival for many of the 7,500 or so Spanish-speaking Latin Americans who live in the Edmonton area. Latin Fest '99, which drew about 2,000 people to last year's debut, returns this year for another weekend of live music, colourful cultural performances, traditional cuisine, arts and crafts, Latin American dance lessons, trivia contests and, of course, the requisite beer tent.

"There are so many festivals in the City of Edmonton, from folk to jazz to theatre," admits Latin Fest

co-ordinator Debbie Bigelow. "But with the explosion in popularity of Latin American music, like Ricky Martin and Jennifer Lopez, and more attention on things like soccer, it seems like the right time to start showing people what Latin American culture is all about."

Fest or famine

Bigelow, whose Ecuador-born husband is in Los Caminantes, one of the bands performing, was approached by several members of the

city's South and Central American communities to organize the event. An instructor in the University of Alberta's agriculture department, she had experience setting up large events and jumped at the opportunity. She looked at other cultural festivals—like Cariwest and Heritage Days—and decided to follow their successful formula. It's hard to go wrong, after all, with music, food and colourful, up-tempo traditional dancing.

Local Latin-rock outfit Nano and the Boys will help supply spirit at the festival. Its members range in age from 16 to 18, and their heritage includes ties to Chile, El Salvador and Mexico. Usually they just do Edgefest-type alt rock, says Leonardo Martinez, an Edmonton-born Chilean. They all listen to groups like Radiohead and the Red Hot Chili Peppers—so that's what they play.

But when the chance to perform this weekend arose, they turned off the U2 and began rehearsing songs by Mexican rockers Mana.

"It's basically rock with Latin rhythms and percussion and Spanish lyrics," explains Martinez. "It was a challenge, because we had to pick it up by ear. We can't get guitar books on them easily around here." But now that they've learned some songs, he says, they've already started to come up with Spanish-tinged tunes of their own.

The big Chile

One of the highlights of the festival is seeing the various Latin American cultures represented in Edmonton come together, says Chile-born Ivan Villanueva, who'll be selling his chorizo sausage and traditional *arrabbiato* ham again this year. He came to Canada in 1976, at a time when many Chileans were coming north to escape the country's military rule. Now, after more than two decades here, he says Chileans and other immigrants from South and Central America are finally starting to show Albertans what their cultures are all about.

As Lina Garcia of dance group Columbia Tiene Otro Color says: "It's really starting to become more evident—the Latins are coming out."

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MUSIC Notes

BY GARY McGOWAN

Opiate of Them Asses

Punchdrunk • With the Smalls • Red's • Thu., Sept. 2 Punchdrunk is looking for the happy medium; the Vancouver-based metal quintet wants to rock but remain accessible at the same time.

"When people come to our show, they can expect to see a heavy, tight, fast-paced, freak-your-mind kind of shit," says guitarist Cam Kroetch, who moved west from Edmonton eight years back. "At the same time, we want it to be accessible for the average listener to listen to."

A self-admitted MuchMusic and pop radio junkie, Kroetch and his bandmates (brand-new drummer Gene Hogan, singer Glenn Thomson, bassist and fellow Edmontonian Ron MacNeil and guitarist Patrick Beaudoin) make sure the melody works before they pound their work into metal submission. Their work has not gone unnoticed; their debut demo, *More Than Metal*, turned quite a few heads in the Vancouver scene. The band also appeared on the *Grr!* compilation, which showcased some of Western Canada's top aggressive acts. Now, the band is set to release their first full-fledged CD, *Music for Them Asses*.

"I guess what's next for us is tour, tour, tour," says Kroetch. "We're going to shop the CD and see who is interested."

This won't be the first time Punchdrunk has appeared on a bill with the

Smalls; the bands have developed a great rapport over the last couple of years. It's only natural, considering Kroetch was a huge Smalls fan during his formative Edmonton years.

"I've been a fan of theirs for years," he says. "In fact, I was at their first show ever."

That's yet another Edmonton connection for the B.C. band; it looks like next week's gig at Red's will be a homecoming of sorts. —STEVEN SANDOR

The Smalls have ears



The Smalls • With Punchdrunk • Red's • Thu., Sept. 2 It's been five months since the release of the Smalls' latest CD, *My Dear Little Angle*. But it's taken until now for the Edmonton hard-edged heroes to feel like they've broken their new material.

"Our shows have been generally well-attended, and the fans are starting to recognize our new songs," says bassist Corby Lund. "Whenever you put out a new record, there's a threshold you must cross—for the first while, the fans don't recognize the new songs. But now, people are yelling out the titles of our new material, so that means that they've been accepted."

The band (Lund, guitarist Dug Bevens, singer Mike Caldwell and drummer Terry Johnson) are gambling that *Angle* (available on Outside music) will mark a new beginning for them after fighting the bankrupt Cargo Records for the rights to their previous

material. So far, so good. The video from the disc, "VCR," is getting play on MuchMusic and the band is planning to shoot a second video. (The song hasn't been decided on, but chances are it will be "My Horse Has Died.")

"The video is in rotation, which is real coup for us," says Lund usually reserved for bands without backing."

Right now, the Smalls are taking a couple of weeks to rest up in Lethbridge—and Lund is putting the finishing touches on his solo country project, which should be out in a couple of months. Meanwhile, the band is putting together a European tour for their next slew of Canadian dates. They also have an agent pressuring them to play at Germany's Popcorne festival. "Right now, we have half-assed distribution over there," says Lund. "When we tour, it'll be part of the deal that will get better distribution."

SANDOR

Welcome matters



Welcome • Urban Lounge • Fri-Sat, Sept. 3-4 Welcome have not been out with their welcome. Instead, the lounge has been quietly laying the groundwork for the release of a new CD.

Last fall the band hunkered down in Beta Recorders with producer Clarence Currie (whose other projects include

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...WHO'S PLAYING WHERE AND WHEN THIS WEEK

Thursday

September 2—Jordan Cook at Blues on Whyte • Roland Majeau at City Media Club • Mark McGarrigle at Lion's Head Pub • Kybosh, Spoil 5 at New City Likwid Lounge • Northwest Passage at O'Byrne's • The Smalls, Punchdrunk, Xith House at Red's • Dwayne Allen at Sherlock Holmes Capilano • Tim Becker at Sherlock Holmes Downtown • Tony Dizon at Sherlock Holmes WEM • Magilla Funk Conduit at Sidetrack Café • Wacko Jacko and the Destroyers at Urban Lounge

Friday

September 3—Jordan Cook at Blues on Whyte • Groovy Rudies at Capone's • Hemli, Endsville, Defeat at Fox and Hounds • Faces First at J.J.'s Pub • Los Caminantes at La Habana • Lure, Broken Nose, Defeat, Hemli, Superego, Out From Under, Endsville at Legislature Park • Mark McGarrigle at Lion's Head Pub • Northwest Passage at O'Byrne's • Dwayne Allen at Sherlock Holmes Capilano • Tim Becker at Sherlock Holmes Downtown • Chuck Belhumer at Sherlock Holmes on Whyte • Tony Dizon at Sherlock Holmes WEM • Shannon Fahey at Sidetrack Café • Butcher'd, Thorazine, Inc.

Saturday

Holmes Capilano • Tim Becker at Sherlock Holmes Downtown • Chuck Belhumer at Sherlock Holmes on Whyte • Dwayne Allen at O'Byrne's • Tony Dizon at Sherlock Holmes WEM • Big Breakfast Boogie Band at Sidetrack Café • Mike McDonald at Sugarbowl Café and Bar • Welcome, Rotting Fruit at Urban Lounge • Dave Herrick at Zenari's on 1st

Sunday

September 5—Renslip at Blues on Whyte • Split Decision, Threshold of Pain, Endtrane at Fox and Hounds • Los Caminantes at La Habana • Myrion, Threshold of Pain, Endtrane, Split Decision, Drive By Punch, Indian Police at Legislature Park

Monday

September 6—Auntie Kate at Blues on Whyte • Renslip, Sol 3, Taoist Sun, A15, Sugarabash, Blacksmith, Typhoid Mary, Outwash at Legislature Park • Allan Barrett at Lion's Head Pub • Tony Dizon at Sherlock Holmes WEM • Removal, Hiatus, The Last Deal, Nevertheless at Sidetrack Café • Single Malt Blues Band at Urban Lounge

Tuesday

September 7—Auntie Kate at Blues on Whyte • Allan Barrett at Lion's Head Pub • Shannon Johnson and Maria Dunn at O'Byrne's • Tony Dizon at Sherlock Holmes WEM • Northwest Passage at Side-track Café • Good Bad & Ugly, Liquid, Mute, Indifferent at The Rev

Wednesday

September 8—Auntie Kate at Blues on Whyte • Allan Barrett at Lion's Head Pub • Northwest Passage at O'Byrne's • Tony Dizon at Sherlock Holmes WEM • Wyckham Porteous, John Bottomley, Linda MacRae at Side-track Café • Vedanta at Urban Lounge

Thursday

September 9—Auntie Kate at Blues on Whyte • Curtis Grambo at Cook County Saloon • Harp Dog Brown and the Bloodhounds at Hard Rock Café • Allan Barrett at Lion's Head Pub • Chicken Snails, Swamp Flowers at New City Likwid Lounge • The Buccaneers at O'Byrne's • Sam August at Sherlock Holmes Capilano • Tony Dizon at Sherlock Holmes WEM • Joe Rockhead at Urban Lounge

Music Notes

Continued from previous page

credits include work for the Gandharvas) to do the basic recording on a CD that bears the working title *Shaped By Blows*. Welcome guitarist Stew Kirkwood says that the band "really gelled in the studio. We came out of Beta a lot stronger as a band."

The tapes Welcome created then went to Vancouver's Greenhouse Studio where Currie mixed them. Mastering was done at Grand Masters in Toronto by Noah Mintz. "You might remember him as a member of iHead," says Kirkwood. "He's a full-time mastering engineer now."

All of this activity usually means a CD release party is just around the corner. Welcome, however, are carefully weighing their options. "The first thing we did," Kirkwood says, "was head out on the road in March and early April to tighten up the band and the tunes." The group then had their music publishing company (TMP in Toronto) run the new songs past MuchMusic head honcho Denise Donlon. "She picked a couple of songs that she thought would be good singles," says Kirkwood, "and said if we ever made videos for them, they'd be happy to play them."

A&R personnel from Oasis Records (Canada's newest major record label, founded by Tragically Hip management partner and long-lost Edmontonian Allan Gregg) will be in attendance at Welcome's gig this weekend at the Urban Lounge. If they like what they hear, Welcome could get a record deal. And otherwise? "Then we'll put it out ourselves or in some sort of distribution scenario," Kirkwood says. "There's been too much work done on the disc to not give it an airing of some sort."

He says that everyone in attendance will hear something "quite different" from Welcome's last CD. "This music is rawer and more aggressive than our first disc, but I think it's also catchier in a lot of ways." The band is now a four-piece (Kirkwood sings and plays guitar, Colin Melynk and Chris Sturwold remain on bass and drums respectively and Tim Cotton handles keyboards) and has been incorporating some neat additions into their live show: Kirkwood says, "We're using some mellotron parts I got off a CD-ROM that Chris triggers with a drum sampler."

Welcome is more than ready to give the world a taste of *Shaped By Blows*—whether the disc is released on a major label, minor label or sold out of the back of the lads' van.

Champions of Breakfast



Big Breakfast Boogie Band • Side-track Cafe • Fri, Sept 3 In just under 10 months they've turned into one of Edmonton's best-loved cover bands. The Big Breakfast Boogie Band was assembled by some of the musically talented members of the A-Channel staff in October of 1998. The original impetus was to play a charity fundraiser for the Rainbow Society, but the gig was such a hit that the band took on a life of its own.

Why do these busy media types run an increasingly busy band on top of their already frantic schedules? "I think it's because we like to play and it fulfills a need in all of us," muses the band's nominal leader, Don Marcotte. The group has ballooned to nine mem-

bers—so many players, in fact, that Marcotte says everyone is responsible for providing their own backup player in case they can't make a gig.

Which means interesting guests like Johnny Collins II sit in with the band on occasion. Collins will be filling in on keyboards when the group plays the Sidetrack on Friday. "He'll also be singing a few songs too," Marcotte says. Collins' amazing voice is well known in local gospel music circles and it will be a treat to hear him exercise it on more secular music.

Faithful Boogie Band fans will also note the presence of a new sax player in the lineup now that John Rogensack has gone to England to attend the Liverpool School of Performing Arts; he's been replaced by Bill Jamieson. Other than that bit of housekeeping, the band remains dedicated to delivering a party-friendly evening of music whenever and wherever they play.

"We don't do any originals," says Marcotte, "and we have no great aspirations to be anything other than a band getting together to have some fun. Our goal is to pack the Trak and then tear the walls down."

Mike McDonald gets it On



Mike McDonald • Sugar Bowl Coffee and Juice Bar (109 St) • Fri, Sept 3 "At this point I feel confident saying that it will be out by the end of the year," says Mike McDonald, referring to his long-awaited debut solo CD. He's been labouring on the disc, which bears the working title *Is This Thing On?*, for more than a year with producer Scott Franchuk at the latter's Rivendale Recorders studio.

The pair recently wrapped the mix on the disc and McDonald pronounces himself pleased with the results. "Considering the pitiful resources we had at our disposal, I think we did a good job," he says with a laugh.

Is This Thing On? is currently in the hands of producer Peter Moore who has undertaken to master the disc in Toronto. "I sort of knew before we started this album that Peter would probably do the mastering," McDonald says. "Peter knows me to a certain extent and I think he knows what to do with the mixes I've sent him." Moore and McDonald first got to know each other when Moore landed a gig producing Jr. Gone Wild's *Pull the Goalie* CD. Moore is also known for his work with Cowboy Junkies and Oh Susanna's recent *Jonestown* CD. Once Moore returns a master tape for McDonald only one hurdle remains: manufacturing.

"That," sighs McDonald, "is the one part of the process that won't wait for its money." He's confident, though, that he'll be able to cobble together the necessary funds in time to bring the CD out before the end of 1999. After that, he hopes to tour in the company of his current band.

The Mike McDonald Band has drawn raves from everyone who's seen it and McDonald says he's "trying to get an apparatus together to get the band on the road next year." He's coy about exactly what that might entail, but remains unconcerned that a beyond-Edmonton tour has been long in the making. "Believe it or not, it feels natural that it has taken this long," he says.

In the meantime, McDonald says

he's been "biding my time and keeping my chops up." "I remember from the Jr. days," he says, "that when things happen they happen fast, so I want to be in shape for whatever's going to happen after I bring out *Is This Thing On?*"

Syko therapy



Sykosomatic • Iron Knight • Fri, Sept 3 "I think we fall somewhere between Queensryche and Mother Earth," says Sykosomatic bassist Matthew Dean. He's less interested in summing up the band's sound than in conveying the sheer joy he and bandmates Cliff Cockrell, John Tompson and Jon Wilson share when they play together.

Dean, Cockrell and Tompson had previously toiled together in a band called 2000. That group fell apart 18 months ago, long before its namesake year, when the singer quit. "So," says Dean, "we ran an ad for a new singer Jon was the last guy to audition, but once we heard him we hired him immediately." Sykosomatic was born just prior to Halloween, 1998.

The band members all hold down day jobs, but in the face of the nine-to-five grind they've doggedly worked at developing their music. Sykosomatic is packing a demo CD of a couple of their original tunes (recorded by Corey Johnson at Dungeon Studios) around to gigs and hope to record a five-song EP next.

While they develop their original music, Sykosomatic is gigging as much as possible. "We opened a Doug and the Slugs show in Morinville," says Dean, "we've played Red's, and on Friday, we'll be at the Iron Knight Pub." They'll be an easy act to find: just look for the four guys who are happy to have the opportunity to play a show and put their music

SEE PAGE 25



It isn't often that an incident sends a shiver down the collective spine, but we here at *Vue Weekly* felt just that when we received news about Cam Hayden's unfortunate accident last weekend.

At approximately 9:00 p.m. Sunday night, Cam and his partner Carroll Deen were involved in a serious motorcycle accident. Carroll got away with a few scratches and bruises, but Cam's condition was more serious—multiple fractures of a lower leg. Despite news reports in other publications, Cam's injuries are not life-threatening. He managed to escape head injuries, and physicians have performed operations to pin the bones in his leg together.

He is currently recovering in hospital.

We're not sure when Cam will be back on the blues beat, but we at *Vue Weekly* do wish him a speedy and full recovery. Those who wish to pass along their expressions of support or well wishes may do so through CKUA, 10526 Jasper Ave., Edmonton, T5J 1Z2.

the rev

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

LIQUORDE (W/ Guests)

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\$10 ADV / \$12 DOOR

SUNDAY SEPT 12th. 99

PORTISHEAD

P

ANDY SMITH

DJ from Portishead (UK)

SCOTT HENDY

(Purple Penguin Records)

\$8 Advance / \$10 at the door

THURSDAY, SEPT. 16

NEXUS Tribe & LUSH present:

Chris Liberator

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STRUNG OUT

WED. SEPT. 29

ALL AGES! SHOW @ 9 PM / CURFEW MIDNIGHT

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BACK TO SCHOOL BASH

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Guests PUNCHBUNK (from Vancouver)

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\$3 AM / \$5 DAY OF SHOW

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MUSIC Weekly

For a FREE listing,
fax 426-2889 or
e-mail listings@vive.ab.ca.
Deadline is 3 pm Friday.

Turn to "8 Days" on page 18
for day-to-day listings.

LA CITE FRANCOPHONE THEATRE
469-4401. FRI 10: Pierre Sabourin -
Singer.

LA HABANA 10238-104 St.,
424-5939. •Every WED: Latin Dance
Lessons. •Every THU: Dance Party, FRI
3-SUN 5: Los Caminantes.

LATIN FEST '99 104 St-102 Ave.,
909-2893. SAT 4-SUN 5 (11 am-9 pm);
Edmonton's 2nd Annual Latin American
Festival: Apurimac, Nano & the Boys,
Los Caminantes.

LITTLE FLOWER SCHOOL Behind
Telus Field, 429-3624. •Every WED (8
pm); Open Stage hosted by Brian
Gregg.

O'BRYNE'S 10616 Whyte Ave., 414-
6766. •Every TUE: Traditional Irish
music by Maria Dunn, Shannon
Johnson and friends, no cover. THU 2
(9 pm); Northwest Passage Live-Celtic
rock, no cover. FRI 3 (9 pm); the
Clones-hos Ská. no cover. SAT 4 (10
pm); Northwest Passage Live- Celtic
Rock, no cover. TUE 7 (9 pm); Shannon
Johnson, Maria Dunn, no cover. WED 8
(10 pm); Northwest Passage Live- Celtic
Rock, no cover. THU 9 (9 pm); the
Buccaneers- Celtic Rock, no cover. FRI
10 (10 pm); King Masaifa with the
Clones-Ska bands, no cover. SAT 11 (10
pm); the Plaid Tongued Devils- Gypsy
Rock, no cover. SUN 12 (9 pm); the
Plaid Tongued Devils- Gypsy Rock, no
cover.

PUCK'S SPORTS BAR 11845 Capilano
St., 471-1231. •Every FRI & SAT: Blues
night.

SIDETRACK CAFE 10333-112 St.,
421-1326. •Every SUN: Variety Night;
Atomic Improv. THU 2: Magilla Funk
Conduit-funk dance. FRI 3: Big
Breakfast Boogie Band-R&B, rock clas-
sics. SAT 4: Shannon Fayth, MON 6 (8
pm); New Moon Monday: All-ages
licensed show. Removal, Hiatus, the
Last Deal, Nevertheless-punk rock
extravaganza. TUE 7: Northwest
Passage. WED 8: Wyckham Porteous,
John Bottomley, Linda Macrae. FRI 10:
Fat Tuesday, Bombal-Latin dance party.
SAT 11: the Dalai Lamas-funk dance.

SUGARWOB CAFE & BAR 10922-
88 Ave., 433-8369. FRI 3 (9:30 pm);
Mike McDonald, \$2 cover charge.

THE THREE MUSKATEERS CREPERY
10416 Whyte Ave. •Every WED (8-11
pm); the Bobby Cairns Trio; Cover \$5;
students \$2.50.

UPTOWN FOLK CLUB Queen Mary
Park Community Hall, 10844-117 St.,
718-2306. FRI 10 (7:30 pm doors);
Scorna Brae-traditional Celtic music,
Paul Levens & friends. TIX: \$5 mem-
bers; \$7 non-members.

Blues & roots

BLACK DOG 10425-82 Ave.,
439-1082. •Every SAT (3-6 pm); Hair of
the Dog. SAT 4: Root Steet. SAT 11:
Mike McDonald.

BLUES ON WHYTE 10329-82 Ave.,
439-5058. •Every SAT: Blues Jam.
THU 2-SAT 4: Jordan Cook. SUN 5:
Renslip, MON 6-SAT 11: Auntie Kate.
SUN 12: Renslip.

CALIENTE LATIN CLUB 10815 Jasper
Ave, at Mayfair Hotel, 914-0152/425-
0850. •Every THU (8:30 pm); Free
dancing lessons and Dance Party.

CITY MEDIA CLUB 6005-103 St.,
433-5183. •Every FRI: Dart Night.
THU 2 (8:30 pm); Roland Majeau-folk
country, TIX: CMC member adv: \$5;
door \$6; guest adv: \$7; door \$8. @
Blackbyrd Myoozik, Groove Asylum.
FRI 10 (9 pm); Tim Williams-blues folk
singer songwriter, TIX: CMC member adv: \$6;
\$8; guest adv: \$8; door \$10. SAT 11 (9 pm); Mississippi
Steamboat-R&B mixed country
pop/folk, TIX: CMC member adv: \$3;
door \$5; guest adv: \$4; door \$6.

CLUB MACARENA 10816-95 St.,
425-5338. •Every SUN: Jammin' &
Madness (Open Jam).

DEVILIN'S 10507-82 Ave., 437-7489.
Every MON (8:30 pm) Bubba. Funky
jazz, groove abstract.

EDMONTON QUEEN RIVERBOAT
Rafters Landing, 9734-98 Ave., 424-
2628. All dinner cruises board at 7 pm,
sail 8-10 pm. Midnight cruises board at
10:30 pm; sail 11:30-12:30. •FRI/SAT:
Dinner & Midnight Cruises: Darrell Barr
& the Rafters. •SUN Brunch
Entertainment: Carlos Aquize-pan flute
extraordinaire. SUNDAY (Brunch): Bruce
Pooley; SUN (evening): Lionel Rault
Trio. •MON/TUES Evening Cruises:
Carlene. •WED/THU: Darrell Barr,
Bobby Cameron, Mark Puffer-acoustic
Trio. THU 2 (Dinner/dance): the Kit Kat
Club-Retro Act.

FESTIVAL PLACE Sherwood Park, 449-
3378. Wednesday Night Patio Series:

FIDDLER'S ROOST 8906-99 St.,
439-9788, 461-1358. •Every MON
(7:30 pm); Country Classic Jam
Session & Open Stage. •Every WED
(7:30 pm); Bluegrass Jam session.
•Every THU (7:30 pm); Old Time
Fiddle Jam Session.

FULL MOON FOLK CLUB Bonny
Doon Hall, 9240-93 St., 438-6410.
SAT 11 (8 pm); Wild Colonial Boys.
TIX: \$75 for 7 concerts; \$65 any 6 of
7 concerts; \$13 adv.; \$15 door.

GREAT CANADIAN PACIFIC 10621-112
St., 434-0460. •Every SUN: Romantic
Open Stage, hosted by Paul Levens
(7:10-1:00 pm).

HIGHRUN CLUB 4926-98 Ave., 440-
2233. FRI 10-SAT 11: Northwest
Passage. THU 16: The Bunnanees.

INSOMNIA PUB 5552 Calgary Tr. S.,
414-1743. •Every SAT: jazz & alterna-
tive; the Method (9 pm-1 am).

IRON HORSE EATERY & WATERING
HOLE 8101-103 St., 438-1907. •Every
SUN live music, full menu until close.

KINGS KNIGHT PUB 9221-34 Ave.,
433-2599. •Every THU: Thursday Night
Raw with The Party Hogs showcasing
Edmonton's New Bands.

NA ZDOROVY UKRAINIAN PUB

10921-101 St., 421-8928. FRI 3 (7
pm); Verkhovyna Song & Dance
Ensemble-CD Release party. SUN 5 (9
pm); Live music-\$3 cover. MON 6
Village Nite. SAT 11: Open Stage f-

ormerly. ORLANDO'S LOUNGE 15137-121
457-1195. •Every WED & SUN:
Karaoke nights. THU nights - FREE
pool!

RED'S MUSIC, 481-6420. •Every F-
Dance Party, hosts Kenny-K. Every SU-
(10 pm); Red's Rebels. •Every SU-
Hypno Sundays. •Every TUE
Tuesday. •Every Weekday: Bowlin-
THU 2 (7 pm doors); the Smallz, F-
Drunk, Little House. TIX: \$10 ad-
Red's & Sonix or Ph 487-2066. \$10
of event-all ages, licensed.

THE ROOST Private Member-
10345-104 St., 426-3150. •Every FRI
DJ jazz, the Recovery Shows. •Every
MON: DJ jazz. •Every WED: DJ
•Every THU: DJ Da Ascension
•Every FRI: Down-J DJ Weena
DJ XTC. •Every SAT: Down-D
Guest; Up-D DJ Code Red. •Every
Up-D DJ Code Red. Weekends: Down-
Retor; Up-House Progressive.

SEÑOR FROG'S 10045-103 St.,
437-3644. •Every FRI: Latin
music by Maria Dunn, Shannon
Johnson and friends, no cover. THU 2
(9 pm); Northwest Passage Live-Celtic
rock, no cover. FRI 3 (9 pm); the
Clones-hos Ská. no cover. SAT 4 (10
pm); Northwest Passage Live- Celtic
Rock, no cover. TUE 7 (9 pm); Shannon
Johnson, Maria Dunn, no cover. WED 8
(10 pm); Northwest Passage Live- Celtic
Rock, no cover. THU 9 (9 pm); the
Buccaneers- Celtic Rock, no cover. FRI
10 (10 pm); King Masaifa with the
Clones-Ska bands, no cover. SAT 11 (10
pm); the Plaid Tongued Devils- Gypsy
Rock, no cover. SUN 12 (9 pm); the
Plaid Tongued Devils- Gypsy Rock, no
cover.

THUNDERDORE 9920 Argyle
433-3388. •Every FRI & SAT:
live music (9 pm). •Every SUN:
Stage with Jose Oiseau. THU
Wacko Jacko & the Destroyer
SAT 4: Welcome, Rotting Frat
5: Open Jam with Jose Oiseau.
6: Single Malt Blues Band. WE
Vedanta. THU 9: Joe Rockhead
10-SAT 11: Tar Baby.

ZONE 10089 Jasper Ave., 426-
433-3388. •Every FRI & SAT:
doors @ 8 pm. •Every
SUN: Teen Nights, call for de-

Classical

CONVERSATION HALL University
Campus, 492-0606. FRI 10 (8 pm);
Celebration of Brahms; Martin Risel
Aaron Vu, Tanya Prochazka, Stephane
Lemelin. TIX: \$10 adult; \$5
senior/student. TIX @ TIX on the Sq
and the Gramophone.

EDMONTON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Heritage Amphitheatre
Hawrelak Park, 428-1414. TUE 2
MON 6: Symphony Under the Stars.
FRI 7: TUE 2: Mainstage Performance
and 7 (pm); ESO: Valdim Anderson
Summer Nights (9 pm); Firework
Mainstage Performance: (9 pm)
Miquel Neri and His Compadres (3 pm);
Catherine Vickery-piano; (5 pm);
Martin Risley-violin. (7 pm); ESO: Longings
Ani Aznavoorian-cello; Mark
Manen-violin. (9 pm); Tent, pub-in-the-Park:
the Kit Kat Club. •SAT 4: (1 pm);
Tent, Workshop: Nora Bumanish-
harp; Julia Shaw-harp; Harp Fest. (2
pm); Mainstage Recital: Valdim
Anderson-soprano; Charles Hudelson-
clarinet. (3 pm); Tent, Workshop
Catherine Vickery-piano. (4 pm);
Mainstage Recital: Ani Aznavoorian-
cello; Janet Scott-Hoyt-piano. (5 pm);
Tent, Vocal Masterclass; Valdim
Anderson-soprano. (7 pm); Mainstage
Performance: ESO: (9 pm); Valdim
Anderson; David Colwell-violin; The Exotic
Muse. (9 pm); Tent, Pub-in-the-Park:
the Tommy Bear's Big Band. •SUN 5
(12:30-2 pm); Teddy Bear's Picnic (free
event). •SUN 5 (2 pm); Mainstage
Children's Concert: Al Simmons
Recital. (3 pm); Tent, Workshop:
Shujata Husan-sitar. (4 pm);
Mainstage Recital: Nora Bumanish-
harp; Julie Sharp-harp. (5 pm); Tent,
Cello Masterclass: Ani Aznavoorian-
cello. (7 pm); Mainstage Performance:
ESO: Catherine Vickery-piano;
Sheldon Person-violin; Musical
Stories. (9 pm); Tent, Pub-in-the-Park:
Wild Colonial Boys. •MON 6: (2 pm);
Mainstage Performance: ESO: Julia
Shaw & Nora Bumanish-harp duo;
May Rathnavuviolin Kent Gallie
War and Peace.

WINPEAK CENTRE Sir Winston
Churchill Sq., 428-1414. SAT 11 (10
am-3 pm); World Championships of
Musical Whistling. Daytime
Competition TIX: \$20 and up. (8 pm);
Evening Concert & Final. TIX: \$45 and
up.

Country

COOK COUNTY SALOON 8010-103 St.,
432-4000. COOK THU 9-FRI 10: Curtis
Grambo.

DRAKE HOTEL 3945-118 Ave.,
479-3929. •Every FRI-SAT & Every SUN
aft: Second Chance Band.

NASHVILLE'S ELECTRIC ROAD

SEE NEXT PAGE



Isn't it always the way? You travel all over the country, and it turns out what you needed was right under your nose all along. The four guys who make up **Vendantia** all come from Grande Prairie, but they never started playing together until they all made separate moves to Edmonton almost three years ago. Destiny or crazy coincidence? You decide during their show this Wednesday at the Urban Lounge.

MUSIC Weekly

Continued from previous page

HOUSE Phase II WEM, 483-3289.
•Every THU: Ladies' Night.

ONE EYED JACKS PUB & GRUB
13042-50 St. •Every FRI-SAT live music.

WILD WEST 12912-50 St., 476-3388.
•Every WED & THU (7:30-9:30 pm):
free dancing lessons •Every SAT aft.
(4:30-7 pm): Jam.

Jazz

BACKROOM VODKA BAR 10324
White Ave., 436-4418. •Every MON:
The Valuum Lovers.

CROWNE PLAZA Crowne Plaza,
10111 Bellamy Hill, 428-6611. LA

RONDE Top 40, dine & dance. •Every
THU (7:30-11 pm): John Fisher. •Every
FRI & SAT (8-11:30 pm): John Fisher &
Christine BECO.

INSOMNIA PUB 5552 Calgary Tr. S.,
414-1743. •Every SAT: jazz & alternative:
The Method (9 pm-1 am).

IRON BRIDGE 12520-102 Ave., 482-
5620. •Every THU: Alfie Zappacosta.

PHATZ LOUNGE 10331-82 Ave., 413-
0930. •Every WED (8:30-11:30 pm):
Robert Walsh. •Every SAT afternoon
(2-7 pm): Jeff Hendrick Trio. •Every
SUN Root Stew.

ROSE & CROWN Sheraton Grande
Edmonton Hotel, 10235-101 St.,
441-3036. •Every FRI (4-7 pm): Jazz;
Central Park Lounge. •Every WED-SAT
Lyle Hobbs Piano Bar. This weekend
Jimmy Flynn.

SHERLOCK HOLMES CAPILANO
Capilano Mall, 5004-98 Ave., 463-
7788. THU 2-SAT 4: Dwayne Alien. THU
9-SAT 11: Sam August.

SHERLOCK HOLMES DOWNTOWN
10012-101A Ave., 426-7784. THU 2-
SAT 4: Tim Becker. THU 14-SAT 18: Tony
Dizon.

SHERLOCK HOLMES WEM 444-1752
•Every SUN: Newfie Night with Spirit of
the Atlantic. THU 2-SAT 4 (mat. 3-6 pm
Sat): Tony Dizon. MON 6-SAT 11: Tony
Mat.: Duff Robson.

SHERLOCK HOLMES ON WHYTE
10341-82 Ave., 433-9676. •Every THU
Celtic night. •Every SUN: Karaoke. THU
2: Celtic Night. FRI 3-SAT 4: Chuck
Belhumer. FRI 10-SAT 11 (3-6 pm SAT
Mat.): Duff Robson.

SORRENTINO'S 10612-82 Ave., 474-
6466. •Every TUE: Tabasco Tuesdays.

BETTER BE ROCK 8216-175 St. Every

Days of the New

From the platinum-selling supergroup who brought you "Touch, Peel and Strain," "She'll In The Room," and "The Down Town" comes a new album, featuring the hit single "Enemy".

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a&b sound

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*Every THU: Grand Marnier
Thursdays.

TOKYO NOODLE SHOP 430-0838.
Live soul/jazz every WED, shows at 8-9
pm.

YARDHIB SUITE 10203-86 Ave.,
432-0428. •Every TUE: Jam Sessions
Jazz & Blues.

ZENARI'S ON 1ST 10117-101 St.,
425-6151. FRI 3: Dave Herrick. FRI 10:
Dino Domine.

Piano bars

THE AMIGO RESTAURANT 11607
Jasper Ave. •Every FRI & SAT (7-9 pm),
evenings with Lee Villeneuve.

CAFE AMANDINE 8523-91 St. •Every
FRI & SAT (6-11 pm): Andre.

LION'S HEAD PUB 1187 Terrace Inn,
444 Calaway Trail South, 437-6011.
THU, 2-SAT 4: Mark McGaragle. MON
5-SAT 11: Allan Barrett. MON 13-SAT
18: Allan Barrett. MON 20-SAT 25:
Doug Stroud

LONDON CITY PUB & EATERY
7704-104 St. Calgary Trail South, 431-
1748. THU 2-SAT 4 (9 pm): A.J. THU 9
SAT 11 (9 pm): A.I. no cover

ROSE & CROWN Sheraton Grande
Edmonton Hotel, 10235-101 St.,
441-3036. •Every FRI (4-7 pm): Jazz;
Central Park Lounge. •Every WED-SAT
Lyle Hobbs Piano Bar. This weekend
Jimmy Flynn.

SHERLOCK HOLMES CAPILANO
Capilano Mall, 5004-98 Ave., 463-
7788. THU 2-SAT 4: Dwayne Alien. THU
9-SAT 11: Sam August.

SHERLOCK HOLMES DOWNTOWN
10012-101A Ave., 426-7784. THU 2-
SAT 4: Tim Becker. THU 14-SAT 18: Tony
Dizon.

SHERLOCK HOLMES WEM 444-1752
•Every SUN: Newfie Night with Spirit of
the Atlantic. THU 2-SAT 4 (mat. 3-6 pm
Sat): Tony Dizon. MON 6-SAT 11 (3-6 pm SAT
Mat.): Duff Robson.

SHERLOCK HOLMES ON WHYTE
10341-82 Ave., 433-9676. •Every THU
Celtic night. •Every SUN: Karaoke. THU
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Belhumer. FRI 10-SAT 11 (3-6 pm SAT
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Mark Holmes is no dumb Blonde

'80s rock icon issues another Platinum album

BY DAVE JOHNSTON

Mark Holmes has been experiencing some déjà vu lately. At a recent concert in Ottawa, he stood on stage and saw that the streets were closed down, and the crowd was in a frenzy—just like Toronto in 1984, where a similar incident catapulted a trio called Platinum Blonde to fame.

Holmes folded the group in 1989 and retreated to Manchester, England, watched "a lot of football" and laid low, waiting for his contract with then-label CBS Records to expire. Ten years later, Holmes is back with a greatest-hits package, *Seven Year Itch*, in tow, and so are the crowds. After all, most

Canadians who grew up in the 1980s know the drum solo from "Doesn't Really Matter" better than they do the theme from *Hockey Night in Canada*.

Did he expect such a surge of renewed interest? "I've always been surprised," he says evenly. "Every time we do a concert and it's full, I'm surprised. In all the time that Platinum Blonde has been out, I've always expected nobody to like it."

No. 9 revolution

Holmes was surprised to find that people were selling the band's records and tapes on the Internet

for inflated prices. But he went and created a new group, No. 9, instead of cashing in. He was encouraged to re-enter the fray when groups like Suede and Pulp cause a resurgence of Britpop on the airwaves. He's always felt a connection with music from the other side



Platinum Blonde: here today, gone tomorrow

Sing along with Itch

of the pond, a fact that certainly shows up in Platinum Blonde's recordings. *Standing in the Dark* was an edgier alternative to the sound of groups like Duran Duran, and made the Blondes a fixture on the infant MuchMusic channel.

Those days were recaptured during a fateful performance No. 9 gave at a show last year in front of some Sony executives in Toronto. For a laugh, he figured the group should play a couple of Platinum Blonde songs. Two turned into five, and Sony realized that they had to put out a greatest-hits package. Holmes feels that the people behind his meteoric success deserve a chance to hear the songs they love.

"I used to regard [Platinum Blonde] as an albatross around my neck," laughs Holmes. "But I owe the people who gave me such a magical life to do this, and I intend to fulfill my obligation. I feel so fortunate that everybody's becoming so mental [about the music] again."

"You know how lucky you are when you're a band that sticks onto your own sound," says Holmes. "Maybe two per cent of all bands in the world accomplish that. It would be a crime to be given that chance and not take it to its full limit, that's what we've been blessed."

Holmes sees *Seven Year Itch* as a chance to properly wrap up one chapter in his career, and produce himself with some new music. He calls No. 9's sound "ambitious," a description that belies the trio's stage presence. At times, the

SEE PAGE 28

rock
profile

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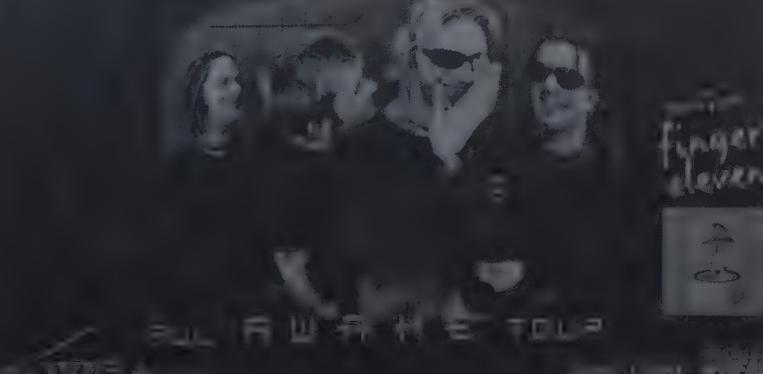
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Music Notes

Continued from page 19

in front of an audience.

New Rock Fest goes out on a Leg

New Rock Fest '99 • Legislature Grounds • Sat-Mon, Sept 4-6 Don Joyce is a brave man. The president of Music City Promotions is staging a three-day outdoor rock festival on the Labour Day long weekend on the grounds of the Provincial Legislature. It's called New Rock Fest '99 and Joyce has noticed a bit of fallout from the last long-weekend outdoor show that included "Fest" in its title.

"A lot of the insurance companies I contacted about covering the event were a bit leery of it," he admits. "They wanted more money than normal to do it, or they wanted to be paid up-front." Joyce is eternally optimistic, however, and he isn't about to let someone else's problems spill over onto his show.

Joyce has been working closely with the local new music community in the last year. He provides many an up-

and-coming band with a place to play at the Fox and Hounds nightclub. He's also had an on-again, off-again show running on CFRN-TV that has given exposure to local acts. New Rock Fest '99 is an outgrowth of all that work.

"Since I was working with the local industry anyway, I wanted to go a step further and try to develop public interest in original music," he says. New Rock Fest '99 features many of the city's newest bands—Lure, Broken Nose, Hemi, Defeat, Endsive, Out From Under, Idle Mind, Superego, Lungbutter and others—on the legislative bands stage from 1-7 p.m. each day. In the event of rain, the show will shift to the Fox and Hounds and begin at 6 p.m. instead.

Thorazine spills their Seed



Thorazine • Suburbs • Sat, Sept 4 1s

a death metal band allowed to be happy? The possibility that he's ignoring the death metal code doesn't concern Thorazine vocalist Shane Hawco. He and his bandmates (Joe Sikorski and Jeff Taylor on guitars, Dave Rooks on bass and Scott Tanner on drums) have good news that they're anxious to share.

For starters, Thorazine is coming to Edmonton. "There's none of that Calgary-Edmonton bullshit with us," declares Hawco. "We consider Edmonton our home away from home. The scene's a lot harder there and we get a great reception every time we play Edmonton."

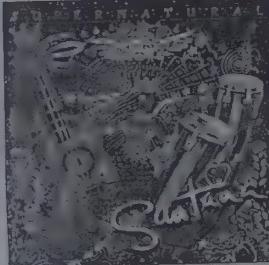
Their gig this Saturday marks the release of the band's new CD, *Seed the Black Sky*. It's the group's first official release—more or less. "We did a complete disc with our original lineup," says Hawco. "We sent demos all over the place and a European label called Immortal said they'd put it out. We sent them everything they needed to release it and that was the last we heard from them." Repeated phone calls weren't returned, and Thorazine has no idea what happened to their tapes.

Rather than surrender to bitterness,

Thorazine reworked their sound into a faster brand of metal now, na says) and set about making a new. "We recorded *Seed the Black Sky* at Boxer Studios in Calgary," Hawco says. "The studio owner, Peter D., helped us achieve the sound we wanted, but we basically produced the disc." *Seed the Black Sky* is firmly in Thorazine's control, although adds, "We are looking for it." Presumably, they'll find a distributor who'll return their phone calls.

Once Edmonton has a proper introduction to *Seed the Black Sky*, Thorazine hopes to bring the band to the rest of the country with borders. The band has death metal superstars like Death and Morbid Angel and they're anxious to play the rest of the country with them.

For now, though, the band claimed, "only death metal in Calgary" is on its way to their successful emergence. Their trials and tribulations in the upbeat mood is perfectly understandable, no matter what kind of CD and live show.



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He's sold over 30 million albums, performed before 15 million fans, is a member of the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame and remains one of the most influential guitarists of all time. Now, rock legend Carlos Santana returns with a powerful album of new songs co-written, co-performed and produced by the top artists in music today including collaborations with Eric Clapton, Eagle Eye Cherry & The Dust Brothers, Everlast, Lauryn Hill, Wyclef Jean, Dave Matthews, Rob Thomas of Matchbox 20 and many more.

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THE WORLD'S BEST MUSIC STORES

The Artist's bitter dispute with Warner Bros. Records led him to become an independent entity, the announcement is a bit of a shock.

Arista Records will release *Un2 the Joy Fantastic* in the near future, which features guest spots by Chuck D, Sheryl Crow, Ani DiFranco and Gwen Stefani of No Doubt. Arista and NPG Productions have noted that this may lead to future efforts. It will be the first time The Artist has partnered with a major label since licensing *Emancipation* to EMI back in 1996.

It's interesting to note that the producer credit reads simply "Prince." Methinks someone is re-evaluating some old decisions.

Baby one more time

Controversial rapper Eminem has returned to the studio to begin work on his follow-up to *The Slim Shady LP*. The still-unitled project is expected to hit shelves next spring.

Billboard.com quotes the rapper as saying his new project will stray from the traditional rap formula, both musically and lyrically.

"I want to bring different sounds, different points of view to hip hop," Eminem said while attending the Source Hip Hop Music Awards on August 18. "I want to be different and separate myself. I already am different, you know what I'm sayin'—just from being who I am."

Mark and Jeff Bass, the production team behind *The Slim Shady LP*, will return to the studio with the rapper, born Marshall Mathers. Dr. Dre, who took the young white rapper under his wing and signed him to his Aftermath label, will produce three of the tracks.

Personnel involved with the recording are calling the new material

"over the edge," but also note that Eminem has matured since the groundbreaking success of *The Slim Shady LP* and sounds more polished.

"It's basically gonna be another crazy Eminem thing, but he's going to be far beyond the last album," Alan Young of Web Entertainment says. "He's pushing the envelope even further."

How far the limits of good taste can still be pushed remains to be seen.

Fragile Nails

The release of the latest Nine Inch Nails disc, *The Fragile*, on September 21, has already been dubbed "the most anticipated release of the decade." At least by the record company. In any case, it will be a substantial pill to swallow.

Clocking in at 100 minutes, Trent Reznor's new disc promises to push the boundaries of electronic music, and explores the theme of "systems failing and things sort of falling apart." Unlike his previous efforts including the monumental disc *The*

SEE NEXT PAGE

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Nasty Carmen

has announced they will begin filming the first of a series of "hip opera" films this fall, beginning with an adaptation of Bizet's *Carmen*. Rap star Nas has been cast, along with Erykah Dawson, who was last seen in the Spike Lee film *He Got Game*.

The film, entitled *Carmen Brown*, is the classic story against the backdrop of Los Angeles, and takes a number of liberties with the original story. Carmen dreams of becoming an actress, while her lover, a cop who escorted her to jail, suffers. She meets a rap star, who drives the cop to insanity, and the struggle eventually leads to Carmen's fatal fall.

The modern twist is an attempt by AT&T to introduce the classic opera to a young audience. Nas will write the lyrics, while Michael Elliot has been drafted to script the film.

I think Puff Daddy should be in a working of *Don Giovanni*, featuring Notorious B.I.G. as the underworld spectre. Yeah.

Hi, my name is Prince

Artist Formerly Known As Prince has decided to join forces with a major once again. Coming so soon after

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18 CAN PACKS OF MOLSON CANADIAN

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DJ Kuch plays trance,
techno & ambient

CATCH THE BEAT
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breakbeats, house,
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Reggae and calypso
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Featuring RGB, funk
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Every Saturday night
with a master mix of
rap and R&B
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Hip hop, house,
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Techno and ambient
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Edmonton's best female DJ
spins positive rap and
RGB every Wednesday
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BACKROOM VODKA BAR—10324 Whyte Ave • WED: Roots, with DJ Spilt Milk and weekly guests • SAT: Funkt, with DJ Andy Pockett and Darren Pockett

BLACK DOG FREEHOUSE—10425 Whyte Ave, 439-1082 • SUN: Revival 3000 with guest live performers

BOILER PUB—10220-103 St., 425-4767 • TUFS: Solid, with DJs Spilt Milk and Tripswitch, plus guests

GET YOUR TUNES FROM SAWX
10351 82 Ave 439-3729

CRISTAL LOUNGE—10336 Jasper Ave, info 426-7521 • SAT: DJ Mad Max • SUN: DJ Instigate • SUN SEPT 5: Talent Show 2 with DJ Fresh and Fini

EDMONTON QUEEN RIVERBOAT—Rafters Landing, 9734-98 Ave, 424-2628 • WED: Summer Love, with guest DJs

LUSH—10030A-102 St., 424-2851 • TUFS: Main—Two Smoking Barrels, with DJ Siren; WED: Main—Classics with DJ Sun; Velvet—DJ Cziolek • THU: Bumpsomebooty, with DJ Soulus • FRI: GDF, Main—Dezesun; Velvet—DJ Bluesun • SAT: Main—Mile High with DJ Jason LP; Velvet—Rockstar, with guest DJs

NEW CITY LIKID LOUNGE—10167-112 St., 413-4578 • WED: Motor, with weekly guest DJs and live electronic music • FRI: Freedom, with DJs Nicky Miago, Jakob and guest DJ Tryptomene

REBAR—10551 Whyte Ave, 433-3600 • MON: 10551 Mondays with DJ Lefty • TUFS: Sympathy For The ClubScene, with DJ Chuck Rock • WED: World Domination, with DJs Big Dada and Nik Rofeelya • THU: Main: Hard Times with guest DJ Solo and Davey James; Upstairs—Good Times

• FRI SEPT 10: Get In My Belly with DJ's Celcius, Spilt Milk, Gundam, Slack

THUNDERDOME—9920-62 Ave,

988-3296 • SUN: Urban Storm with

DJs Attitude Sound Crew, Q-B, Mad

Max and Instigate

with DJ Slimboy • FRI: Boogie Nights Disco Express • Main—DJ Davey James; upstairs—DJ Slimboy • SAT: Main—DJ Davey James; Upstairs—DJ Slimboy • THUR 16: Upstart—Zero Times with DJ Slimboy and the Dala Lamas

THE REV CABARET—10030-102 St, 423-7820 • SUN 12 DJ Andy Smith (London UK) • THU 16: Chemistry Kickoff with Chris Liberator (London)

THE ROOST—10345-104 St, 426-3150 • MON: DJ Jazzy-TUE: DJ Jazzy from 10 PM - 3 AM; WED: DJ Soulus; THU: downstairs—DJ Dada; upstairs—DJ Mikee; FRI: downstairs—DJ Weena Lov; upstairs—DJ Mikee; SAT: Downstairs—DJ XTC; upstairs DJ Code Red • Sunday: DJ Jazzy

STRATHCONA HALL—10139-87 ave • FRI SEPT 10: Get In My Belly with DJ's Celcius, Spilt Milk, Gundam, Slack

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SUBLIME (late night/after hours)—10147-104 St, Bsmt. 905-8024 • FRI:

Ultrachi with DJ Manny Mulatto • SAT: Casa Saturdays with Graham Lock

THERAPY (late night/after hours)—10028-102 Street (alley entrance),

info 903-7666 • FRI: DJs Ariel & Roel and Tripswitch • SAT: DJ Dragon, Inside 9 and Crunchee

Platinum Blonde

Continued from page 22

group sounds like water, Radiohead or Blur, but prepared to take his lead.

"We've worked quite a bit this," he says firmly. "In sudden thing, where we some songs together and them out. We've been working this for three years now that once people hear what we're doing, we may gain a wider audience."

This isn't a reunion. No. 9 only features Hotstar and Sascha Tukatschew, who replaced Chris Stoen when he left the Blondes in 1987. Stoen runs a Toronto restaurant, and Hotstar Sergio Galli became a concert. Bass player Kenny McLean joined the group before the *Alien Shores*, now owns a hair salon.

"I don't really speak very much," he sighs. "I'm a very baby of the group, and I've gone through some craziness that I just got through now."

Loving the Alien

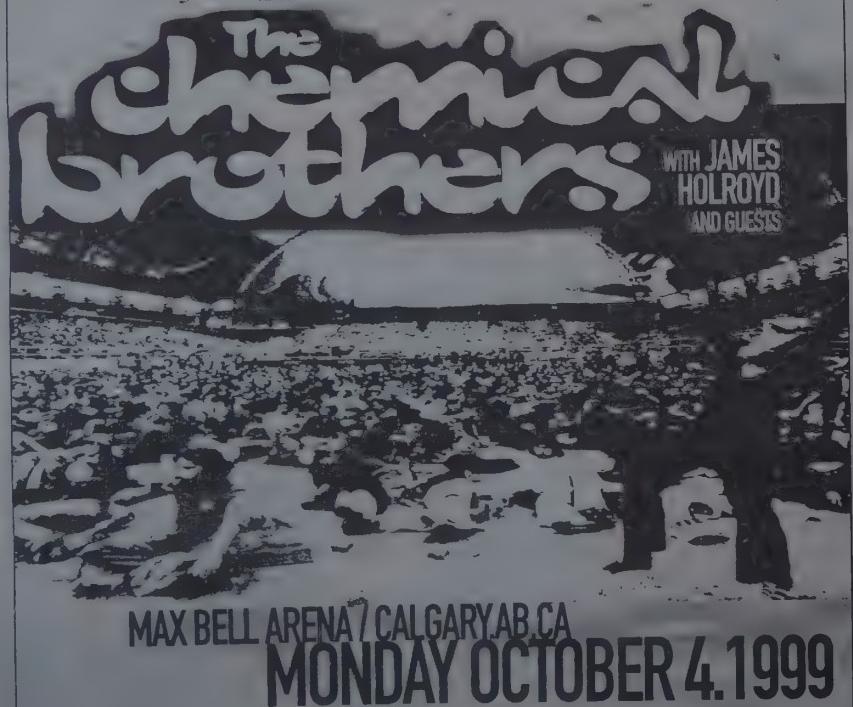
Holmes wasn't really aware of the extent of Platinum Blondes' music until they embarked on the *Alien Shores* tour, which was a massive arena extravaganza. "I came to the arena one time," he says. "I saw the seats, and I saw a bunch of people doing rigging and thought to myself that if these people are employed directly because of a song, that's cool."

The devotion of the fans surprises him as well. "I heard group's glory days people lined up and screamed at the end of 'Crying Over You' in front of the country. It's bloody mad that all the people know the words to the songs better than I do. It's like the new stuff, because I made up the words nobody will sing."

Holmes also has a surprise about the past. Remember the drum solo from "Doesn't Matter"?

That was him, in the studio one night. Every time he takes him back to a much simpler time—like it does for all of us.

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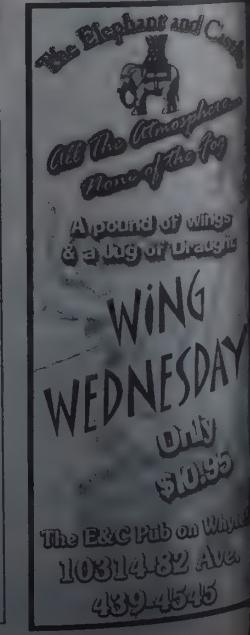
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new sounds

REVIEWS of this week's
NEWEST DISCS



SLOW FRESH OIL POST-OPERATIVE SOCKET MANAGEMENT (GREEN PEPPER)

How cool is Brent Oliver? Pretty cool, I'd say. How many of us can lose an eye playing hockey, then turn around and name a CD after the home care booklet the doctors at the emergency ward gave us? Not me, I can tell you. Me, I'd have been so depressed, I would have made Al Curtis look like Richard Simmons.

Then again, if I had been part of a band as strong as this one, I could easily overlook (no pun intended, honest!) such a setback. Oliver's old trio, Egg, seems like a distant memory compared to this 40-track onslaught. Everything from the songwriting to the production to the sheer volume of interesting material must leave the members of Slow Fresh Oil wondering how long it'll be until *Exclaim* comes calling for a story.

It's obvious that Post-Operative Socket Management is going to have a powerful impact (no pun intended, honest!) on the next year or so of their vis, what with promoting the disc, doing in support of it and answering stupid questions like, "How in the hell do you manage to fill the disc with 40 songs while other bands are still arguing about what to name their group?"

This disc is tight, professional, melodic and snappy. The band travels down many musical paths (not just a few) and sound like they're just getting started. Slow Fresh Oil is a band to keep your eye on (okay, that one was intentional). Get out there and check this out. ★★★★ —T.C. SHAW

WEIRD AL YANKOVIC RUNNING WITH SCISSORS (ATTIC RECORDS/VOLCANO)

Everybody knows Weird Al is a nut. His versions of such songs as "Like a Sir," "Beat It" and "Gangster's Paradise" have become as well-known as their original counterparts. With this latest release, Yankovic continues his high level of humour, offering listeners not only takeoffs of popular music, but quality piece of production as well.

Slowly songs have come along recently since "Purple People Eater." Yankovic has learned that an amusing song may garner attention for a little while, but if you perform and mix the song with the same care and professionalism as a "serious" musician would, its shelf life is extended dramatically. *Running With Scissors* is fun to listen to—Weird Al is the master of ear lyrics—but the level of musicality is on a par with the bands he spoofed. "Pretty Fly for a Rabbi" has the grit of the Offspring original, while "Grapefruit Diet" is as swingable as the original Cherry Poppin' Daddies track; trashing of Pentium chips, however, is a notorious B.I.G. song as a spoof, is my favorite track.

This disc deserves a lot of attention. Yankovic isn't just a silly punster, he's a craftsman; he takes some quite a craftsman, and takes

his musicianship as seriously as any other band out there. Well done, Al. ★★★★ —MATT BROMLEY

SOUL ECSTASY (EMPEROR NORTON)

Curiously, although this soundtrack survives, no existing print of the 1972 shocker can be found today. Maybe that's a good thing—the film's blunt themes of hedonism, excess and exploitation were profoundly threatening, mainly because militant black protagonists were giving it to Whitey for a change.

The film's uncompromising imagery caused such anxiety among the film's distributors that the word "gut-tightening" doesn't come close to describing it. Despite *Soul Ecstasy's* quick disappearance from theatres, it still managed to provoke panic-stricken tabloid headlines and, in one extreme case, was the alleged "reason" for one theatre to be burned to the ground.

Out of this mythic setup comes the music—whose sultry sexuality and disregard of conventional morals only hints at the film's Molotov cocktail of ideas and provocations. If interracial dating was enough to pop a vein in Cletus's forehead back in '72, what would the concept of blacks selling white women to Red Chinese slave rings do to the blood pressure of upstanding Jethro everywhere?

For its part, the soundtrack (performed by the inner child's best friend, the Inner Thumb) mimics the worst aspects of a cheesy porno soundtrack, except that this stuff is played for real, making it even sleazier, nastier and much better than the soporific Muzak

that graces every skin flick with a lime green shag rug in it.

While Spike Lee was still playing with colouring books, *Soul Ecstasy* blasted out a telegraphed "what if?" that was too hot to handle. We'll never know how rough the film was, but this soundtrack, dripping in Afro Sheen, funk and Spanish Fly, gives us an idea of how challenging it must have been. ★★★★ —T.C. SHAW

GRADE UNDER THE RADAR (VICTORY RECORDS)

It's nice to see a Canadian act on Chicago-based hardcore label Victory Records; Grade hails from Oakville, Ont.

And Grade isn't your typical hardcore act—singer Kyle Bishop's lyrics aren't about the end of society or how certain people suck. They don't even rhyme—instead, they are more slice-of-life stories. He speaks matter-of-factly about losing love, stealing bikes and the frustration of being only one small person in a world of billions—he's a lyrical Frogstar Total Perspective Vortex (apologies to Douglas Adams).

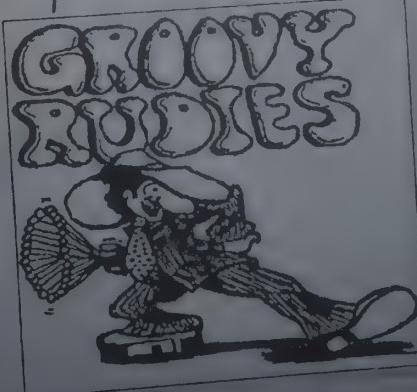
I mean, what kind of hardcore singer belts out lyrics like "We're victims of mathematics/applying fractions to modern-day living is as useful as handing gasoline to an arsonist?" Pardon my bourgeois attitude, but I find it difficult to match the words up with the singing style. Remember, Bishop's not singing this stuff; he's roaring it with all the spit and venom he can muster.

It may be too much for the average hardcore fan to follow—but I would be intrigued to see their reaction. ★★★ —STEVEN SANDOR

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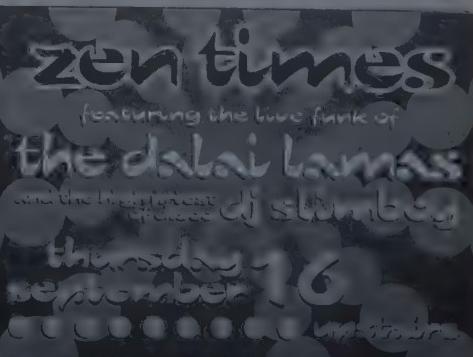
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Orchestral manoeuvres in the park

Symphony Under the Sky makes overtures to new audiences

BY DAVID GOBEIL TAYLOR

There's a whole vocabulary that goes hand in hand with classical music. During the intermission—excuse me, *intermezzo*—of a symphony concert, snooty subscribers sip their cognacs and wait words like *mezzo piano*, *divertimento*, *intonation*, *obbligato*, *Leitmotif*, *scherzo* or *andante con moto* non troppo allegro into the concert hall, preparing themselves for the requisite curtain calls at the end of the evening, complete with shouts of "Bravo!" or, in the case of a particularly impressive female, "Bravissima!"; the mark of a proper patron is proper declension of Italian words, of course.

This is but one view of the atmosphere that surrounds classical music, at its most pretentious extreme. But missing from this glossary is a pair of plain English words that is as much part and parcel of classical music as any Italian tempo marking:

Audience development.

Societal macro-trends that are wreaking havoc with healthcare and globalizing the economy have a trickle-down effect on all aspects of life: including classical music. The world of Mozart and Mahler may be rarefied, but the conceit that its Apollonian purity keeps it above the mundane facts of life has never been true—and, in this last year of the 20th century, it's never been more patently false.

Deficit reduction has replaced social spending as a public policy priority, and education is one of the myriad of traditionally subsidized areas that has had to learn to make do with less. The trickle-down effect in this instance is in terms of priority: there's no better incentive to re-evaluate priorities than savage budget cuts. And almost invariably, the first subject to get the axe is music.

Sure, there are specialized schools, and sure, there is private tutoring. But these are options only for the gifted, for those who demonstrate an aptitude for music very

early in life. There is more and more competition for jobs in fields like information technology as candidates get better and better—but few careers hold a candle to that of the classical musician, as only genuine prodigies seem to have a hope of making the grade and carving out a full-time career.

And the rest of us are left high and dry. Schools that taught music now

turn to math or English or some other subject that will more typically translate into future earnings. And parents are more loathe to direct their decreasing spending power to lessons for a child who shows no potential to be the next André Previn when they can use their discretionary income for daycare or physics tutoring. At this rate, in another few years even young pianists with the potential to be the next, say, Roger Admiral will be quietly steered toward more practical pursuits. (Sorry, Roger: I mean no insult to your talents, just to a society that is turning its back on its rich musical heritage.) Add to this the increasing prevalence and commercialization of popular music, and regular readers of my column know verbatim the sentence that's coming up:

We're producing a generation of virtuosos—with no audience to listen to them.

Pardon me if I sound like a broken record—or a performance of Erik Satie's 1893 piano piece *Vexations*, in which the composer instructs, "To play this motif 840 times in succession, it would be advisable to prepare oneself beforehand, in the deepest silence, by serious immobilities." Of course, he doesn't say you have to play the piece 840 times in a row, a fact that's surely of little comfort for anyone who's had to sit through it.

But the waning fortunes of classical music deserve attention: "audience development" is the term that should be forefront for every performer, listener or reviewer with half a brain—and I most certainly qualify.

Symphony in the Park with George... er, David

I don't mean to imply that classical musicians are sitting idly by while the carcass of their genre rots

around them. Classical music organizations have, by and large, embraced the need for audience development. They're determined to introduce people to the classics, educate them about the universe of beauty that is available to them and dispel their misconceptions about the knowledge, experience, vocabulary, attire and attitude required to join the world of classical music.

And, I dare say, few if any organizations have set to this task with more vigour and determination than the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra.

In fact, their 1999-2000 season kicks off with a tradition: the Symphony Under the Sky festival at the Heritage Amphitheatre in Hawrelak Park. Unusually for a major symphony orchestra, the public's first glance at the ensemble isn't under the baton of maestro Grzegorz Nowak—the ESO's resident guest conductor, David Hoyt, is in charge, bearing the title of festival artistic director and conductor for five days.

Between rehearsals, Hoyt walks into the ESO boardroom for our interview, brandishing the score of André Previn's *Honey and Rue*. "A lot of people don't realize Previn is a composer as well as a pianist," he reflects—and Symphony Under the Sky's target audience is one who might not even know for sure who Previn is.

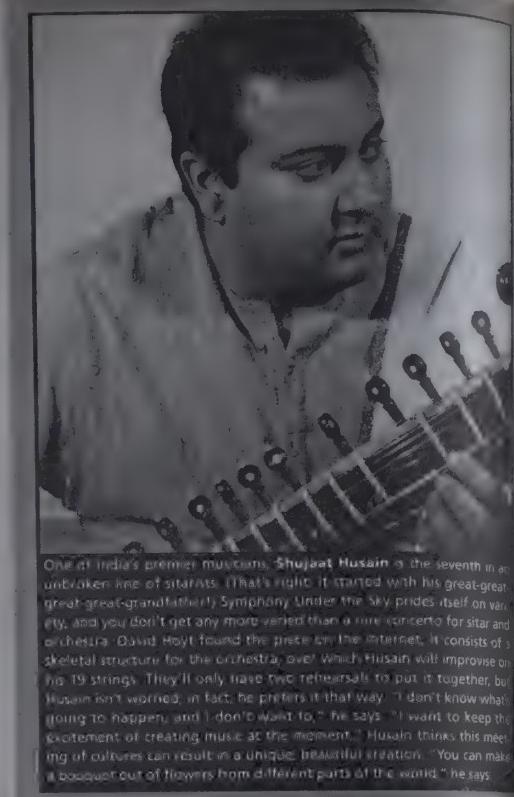
"Symphony Under the Sky isn't the same as an evening at the Winspear," says Hoyt, launching into his mission. "It's a festival more than a traditional classical music event. It lasts all day; you can hang out and take in what you want, when you want. Usually, a classical concert takes three hours out of your evening, you go in and out of the hall without much contact with people, and there's no man's land between the musicians and the audience."

"What I love about Symphony Under the Sky is that the audience and the performers can run into each other, talk and even have a beer together."

Not that there's anything wrong with an evening at the Winspear, of course: when the five-day festival is over, there's a whole nine-month ESO season to go, exposing those in the know to world-famous artists like Rivka Golani, Nigel Kennedy and Pinhas Zuckerman, to name but three. The idea is to kick off the season with something aimed at convincing people to take a chance on the season, to fall in love with classical music just as Hoyt and every orchestra member and I did.

"The festival's audience isn't made up of symphony subscribers," says Hoyt. "We're looking at families and university students new to the city and anyone else who's new to the music. In the Winspear, you'll find a different crowd at each subscription series, with little crossover. The people who come to the Magnificent Masters series are different from those who come to the Lighter Classics or the Parade of Pops or On the Edge or Saturdays for Kids."

"At Symphony Under the Sky, though, you've got a broad-based audience full of people of all ages and backgrounds. I hope that everyone can find something here that interests them; that they'll discover



One of India's premier musicians, Shujaat Husain is the seventh in an unbroken line of starlings. That's right: it started with his great-great-great-grandfather's Symphony Under the Sky, pride itself on variety, and you don't get any more varied than a nine-concerto fests for sitar and orchestra. David Hoyt found the piece on the Internet. It consists of a skeletal structure for the orchestra, over which Husain will improvise on his 19 strings. They'll only have two rehearsals to put it together, but Husain isn't worried; in fact, he prefers it that way. "I don't know what's going to happen, and I don't want to," he says. "I want to keep the excitement of creating music at the moment." Husain thinks this meeting of cultures can result in a unique, beautiful creation. "You can make a bouquet out of flowers from different parts of the world," he says.

a piece or even a style of music they never knew existed before and say, 'Wow.'"

'Scuse me while I kiss the Sky

It's a challenge to program a festival aimed at such a diverse demographic, but it's a challenge Hoyt enjoyed. There's a bit of everything: plenty of symphonic mainstays, like Schubert's *Unfinished Symphony* No. 8, Rimsky-Korsakov's *Scheherazade* and Vivaldi's *Four Seasons* (a different season each night, played by the winners of the ESO's Stars of the Next Millennium competition) to lesser-known works like Aaron Copland's *Four Dance Episodes from Rodeo* (a personal favourite of mine playing on the opening night) to modern works like former ESO composer-in-residence John Estacio's *Alegria*.

And it's not just symphony concerts, either; there are recitals, workshops and master classes during the day, given by featured artists like soprano Valdine Anderson, cellist Ani Aznavoorian and pianist Catherine Vickers. (The average concertgoer doesn't realize what an incredible experience a master class is; hopefully, the festival will introduce more people to the concept. I'd go to a master class over a concert any time—you get an idea of the personality of the performer, not just the persona.)

And the festival isn't just classical music: the Pub-in-the-Park features Motown by the Kit Kat Club, salsa by Miguel Neri and his Compadres, jazz by the Tommy Banks Big Band and country/folk by the Wild Colonial boys.

And, of course, the festival closes with the traditional performance of Tchaikovsky's peripatetic *1812 Overture*, complete with guns (supplied by the Royal Canadian Artillery) and bells (supplied by the audience).

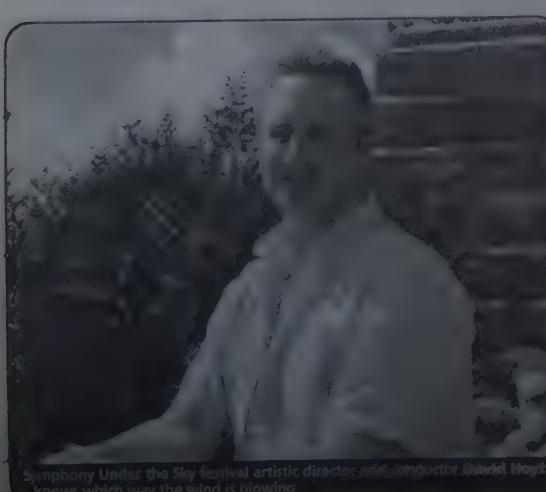
There are musical canons, and there are musical cannons: the latter may be one of the most extravagantly bombastic pieces of all classical music, but once you get a whiff of it, you realize it's a hoot.

There are, of course, a host of considerations that come with playing in a tent as opposed to a concert hall—Hoyt has to take the weather into consideration, humidity means tuning trouble, it's actually in some ways easier to balance the sound outdoors, however because you don't need to keep lid on the brass and percussion, you must do so in a concert hall, not hard to get them to play louder," says Hoyt with a twinkle in his eye—he should know, being a French horn player himself.

As for the future, Hoyt would like to see Symphony Under the Sky continue to grow. "I'd like us expand into a destination event, like some big American festivals," he says. "Symphony Under the Sky has the potential to become something people travel and fly in from all over to see and experience."

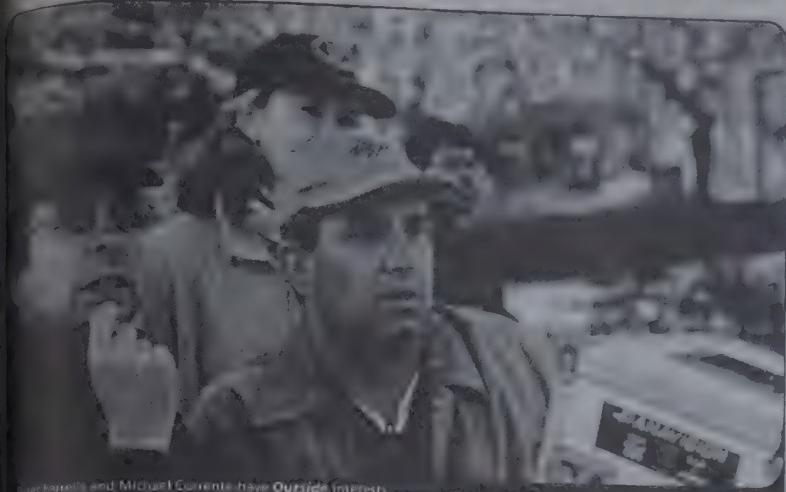
In the meantime, though, he's busy doing his part for audience development. And before he's got to get back to work, going to be in charge of a musical overture for five days, he's betrayed by the brief pause expression that comes over him when I express my enthusiasm over the Copland piece. It's a bit difficult," he smiles. And right: that fourth movement, "Hoe-down," absolutely whips you by; it's difficult enough to program it during a regular season, but he's got to rehearse 21 of pieces to go along with it.

And he's also got to keep score that score of *Honey and Rue*. "Memory work is important," he says, "when at any minute, wind can come and blow your sheet music off the stand." ☺



Symphony Under the Sky festival artistic director and conductor David Hoyt knows which way the wind is blowing

Can we take this Outside?



Peter Farrelly and Michael Corrente have *Outside* interests

In draws on
director's misspent
Rhode Island youth

BY IAN CADDELL

NEW YORK—Michael Corrente was going through the remainder bin at a Los Angeles bookstore when he saw the title that changed his life. "It took a buck," he says in a New York hotel interview room. "It was called *Outside Providence*, and when I flipped open the cover, I saw the story started out in Pawtucket in the 1970s. Since I had grown up in Pawtucket, Rhode Island, I thought, 'How bad could it be?'"

The book was written by Peter Farrelly, an aspiring young screenwriter who had moved to Los Angeles from Rhode Island a few years earlier. Corrente contacted Farrelly

comedy
preVUE

about working together on a screenplay, and they agreed they would get together after they finished the scripts they were writing. Corrente went back to writing another story about growing up in Rhode Island, *Federal Hill*, which he eventually directed. He then went on to make the movie version of David Mamet's *American Buffalo*, starring Dustin Hoffman. Meanwhile, Farrelly was working with his brother, Bobby, on a script for a movie called *Dumb and Dumber*, which was followed by *Kingpin*.

The Farrellys and Corrente got together to write the screenplay for *Outside Providence* during the break between the filming of *Dumb and Dumber* and a movie called *There's Something About Mary*. They went looking for studio backing for the project, but there was little response to a drama about growing up in the 1970s in Pawtucket.

"I heard every excuse from 'It's too funny' to 'It's not funny

enough,'" Corrente says. "They said all kinds of things. But I would love to go back to the studios now and say that this film should be made. Even using the [box-office] grosses of *There's Something About Mary*, I would be willing to bet you that we would still have a hard time getting this movie made."

Prep pills

The film, which Corrente directed, tells the story of a Pawtucket teenager named Timothy Dunphy (Shawn Hatosy), who is constantly fighting with his widowed working-class father (Alec Baldwin). When Timothy and several friends crash into a parked car, his father decides to separate him from the pack and sends him to a fashionable prep school near Providence. While he can't give up his hometown friends entirely, he does develop friendships and falls hard for the school's most popular girl.

SEE PAGE 35

Sent-Down Girl: Xiu's life

chen explores
the aftermath of
the Cultural Revolution

BY KEN EISNER

the late '60s and early '70s, millions of urban Chinese—especially those seen as having intellectual or even just technical skills—were shifted en masse to impoverished countryside. The idea (the Cultural Revolution) was to scatter the masses and expose the "rightists" to the land's rough-hewn beauty. In fact, it was a way of singling out potential opposition, channeling student energies into mass activities and covering up the government's famine-induced rural policies.

That's a lot of history to pack into a preamble to a mere movie,

foreign
reVUE

looks remarkably like a young Chen) is a somewhat spoiled teenager who is initially excited when she and her high-school buddies get sent from thriving Chengdu to a stark outpost in a far western province.

Sure, they enjoy this break from their studies, since they get to watch movies (all showing the Red Army in full choreographed glory), eat and sleep outdoors, and trade gossip with the locals. But Xiu Xiu is eventually broken off from the pack and ordered even farther away into the

Tibetan plains to learn equestrian skills, ostensibly to prepare her for a women's cadre on horseback. (Who wouldn't want to join something called the Iron Girls' Cavalry?) In reality, this devotee of music boxes and silk scarves is simply dumped at the hut of a local herdsman and left to fend for herself.

At this point, Chen's essentially realistic style yields to a tone of increasingly dreamlike strangeness. The archetypes of Abused Female, Stifled Minority and Venal Bureaucrat vie for screen space with the specific humans we have already spent time with—and in a way that won't satisfy all viewers. As a director, though, she has a sure enough grasp of this tricky terrain to balance the poetry and the outrage. They say that youth is wasted on the young, but in *Xiu Xiu*, it is discarded by the old. ♦

Seen but not herd

The results, as you might expect, are tragic, although not because of the herdsman, who is played beautifully by a Tibetan actor named Lopsang,

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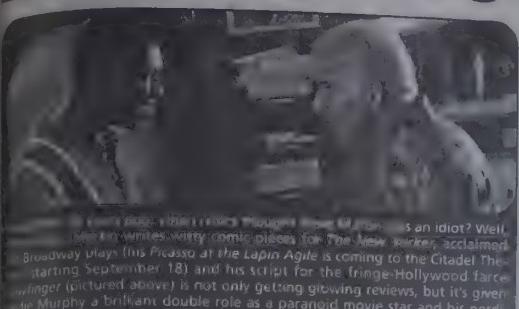
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FILM Weekly



Broadway **Om Puri** (CO, PG) Hugh Grant, James Van and Jeanne Tripplehorn star in director Kelly Makan's romantic comedy about a philandering movie star who falls in love with the daughter of a Mafia boss.

The Muse (CO, PG) Hugh Grant, James Van and Jeanne Tripplehorn star in director Kelly Makan's romantic comedy about a philandering movie star who falls in love with the daughter of a Mafia boss.

My Life So Far (GA) A memoir of a most unusual family as seen through the eyes of one adventurous Scottish child who taught the delicious truth about his parents' secret sex life. Directed by Jim Rygiel.

Mystic Men (PG, R) Ben Stiller, David Cross, Jason Lee, and Mike Myers star in director Mike Judge's comedy about a group of working class who dig up old secrets.

Outside Providence (PG) Hugh Grant, known for his role in *Four Weddings and a Funeral*, stars in director Gary Marshall's romantic comedy about a cynical newspaper reporter who falls in love with a woman with a history of deserting men at the altar.

The Sixth Sense (CO, PG) Bruce Willis stars in M. Night Shyamalan's supernatural thriller about a child psychologist who tries to uncover the truth about a terrified ten-year-old boy's paranormal powers.

Star Wars: Episode One - The Phantom Menace (PG) Natalie Portman, Liam Neeson and Ewan McGregor star in director George Lucas' prequel to his 1977 sci-fi blockbuster, in which the young Darth Vader is taught the ways of the Force by Obi-Wan Kenobi.

Tarzan (GR) The voices of Tony Goldwyn, Minnie Driver, Glenn Close and Rosie O'Donnell are featured in Disney's animated adventure, based on Edgar Rice Burroughs' classic story *Tarzan* of the Apes.

Teaching Mrs. Tingle (CO, PG) Katie Holmes and Helen Mirren star in writer-director Kevin Williamson's black comedy about three high-school friends who play a cat-and-mouse game with a biographical history teacher.

The 13th Warrior (CO, PG) Antonio Banderas, Diane Venora and Omar Sharif star in *Die Hard* director John McTiernan's action film about an Arab soldier unwillingly recruited by Vikings to a battle against a rampaging, man-eating creature.

The Thomas Crown Affair (CO, PG) Pierce Brosnan, Rene Russo and Dennis Leary star in *Die Hard* director John McTiernan's update of the 1968 caper film about a wealthy man who moonlights as a high-tech thief.

Universal Soldier: The Return (CO, GR) Jean-Claude Van Damme stars in director Michael Rodger's sequel to the 1992 action flick about a secret government project to develop unstoppable robo-soldiers.

Wildfire: *Feel the Heat* (ESCC) IMAX documentary about the helicopter pilots, smokejumpers and other men and women whose job it is to research, manage and battle forest fires.

NEW THIS WEEK

Meet Girl (CO) Sean Astin and Emily Hampshire star in this romantic comedy about a cynical woman who has been promised to a man she does not like.

Son of the Fanatic (PG) Om Puri and Rachel Griffiths star in director Udayan Prasad's film about a son who can drive in London who is devastated by his son's conversion to Islam fundamentalism. Written by Hanif Kureishi.

Slots of Cabria (M) Giulietta Masina stars in this new version of *La Strada* director Federico Fellini's 1957 neorealist classic about a downtrodden woman prostitute, in Italian with English subtitles.

Xiu: The Sent-Down Girl (P2) Lu Lu and Xiu Star in actor-turned-director Joan Chen's adaptation of Yan Geling's novella about a Chinese teenager who is sent to a stark upland prison, in a far western province. In Chinese with English subtitles.

First-run movies

Million Pie (CO) Director Paul Weitz's raunchy comedy about the story of four male high school students hell-bent on losing their virginity before they graduate.

The Astronaut's Wife (CO, PG) Johnny Depp and Charlize Theron star in writer/director Randy Quaid's science fiction film about an astronaut whose personality seems strangely altered after his return from outer space.

The Blair Witch Project (CO, PG) Heather Don-

LEGEND

CO: Cineplex Odeon, 444-5468

ESCC: Edmonton Film Society, 439-5285

ESSC: Edmonton Space & Science Centre IMAX, 452-9100

FP: Famous Players

GA: Game Theatre, 433-0728

GR: Grandia Theatre, 458-9822

M: Metro Cinema, 988-3456

P: Princess Theatre, 433-0728

P2: Princess II Theatre, 433-0728

S: SilverCity IMAX, Famous Players WEM 484-8581

inspector with 14,000 mechanical devices grafted onto his body. Based on the cartoon character of the same name.

The Iron Giant (CO, FP) The voices of Jennifer Aniston, Harry Connick Jr. and Vin Diesel are featured in director Brad Bird's animated adventure about a boy who befriends an enormous metal eating robot. Based on the book by British poet laureate Ted Hughes.

Monkey Blue Eyes (CO, FP) Hugh Grant, James Van and Jeanne Tripplehorn star in director Kelly Makan's romantic comedy about a philandering movie star who falls in love with the daughter of a Mafia boss.

The Muse (CO) Hugh Grant, James Van and Jeanne Tripplehorn star in director Kelly Makan's romantic comedy about a philandering movie star who falls in love with the daughter of a Mafia boss.

My Life So Far (GA) A memoir of a most unusual family as seen through the eyes of one adventurous Scottish child who taught the delicious truth about his parents' secret sex life. Directed by Jim Rygiel.

Mystic Men (PG, R) Ben Stiller, David Cross, Jason Lee, and Mike Myers star in director Mike Judge's comedy about a group of working class who dig up old secrets.

Outside Providence (PG) Hugh Grant, known for his role in *Four Weddings and a Funeral*, stars in director Gary Marshall's romantic comedy about a cynical newspaper reporter who falls in love with a woman with a history of deserting men at the altar.

The Sixth Sense (CO, PG) Bruce Willis stars in M. Night Shyamalan's supernatural thriller about a child psychologist who tries to uncover the truth about a terrified ten-year-old boy's paranormal powers.

Star Wars: Episode One - The Phantom Menace (PG) Natalie Portman, Liam Neeson and Ewan McGregor star in director George Lucas' prequel to his 1977 sci-fi blockbuster, in which the young Darth Vader is taught the ways of the Force by Obi-Wan Kenobi.

Tarzan (GR) The voices of Tony Goldwyn, Minnie Driver, Glenn Close and Rosie O'Donnell are featured in Disney's animated adventure, based on Edgar Rice Burroughs' classic story *Tarzan* of the Apes.

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All movies should be as good as *Fanatic*

Om Puri and Rachel Griffiths inspire *Fanatical* admiration

Cross-cultural satire is humanistic and sharply observed

BY KEN EISNER

My Son the *Fanatic* is exactly the kind of movie we need more of. Provocative, well-reasoned and deeply humanistic, it illuminates some of the darkest impulses that divide people, and it often makes you laugh into the bargain.

To start with, the script is by Hanif Kureishi, who also wrote *My Beautiful Laundrette* and *Sammy and Rosie Get Laid*. Kureishi is an artist of such invention and scope that even his duds, such as *The Buddha of Suburbia* and *London Kills Me* (the only screenplay he directed himself), are worth seeing, if only for the observational gems hidden among the dross.

He also has a way with titles. The fanatic in question here is Farid (Akbar Kurtha), a rather ordinary college student in the hard-bitten English industrial town of Bradford. But the focus is on his father, Parvez (*Such a Long Journey's* sensationally good Om Puri), a Pakistani taxi driver whose 25 years in England haven't yielded the milk-and-honey haven he came for. Still, he finds a certain comfort in a routine that includes good food and booze, '40s jazz and big dreams for his son, who's about to marry the top cop's daughter. He also secretly enjoys the fact that, due to his late-night shifts, local hookers treat him like a big brother and confidant.

A mutable boy

Farid, however, is not quite as temporal as his father. The boy suddenly drops his fiancée, dons the white duds of a devotee and joins an Islamic fundamentalist group. His actions are merely perplexing to mother Minoo (Indian star Gopi Desai), but to Parvez they're devastating, since his whole world view is

based on life's mutability thing is mingled, this thing other," Parvez protests. "us," Farid replies, "want see that's more than muddled."

It's an inarticulate but plea, in which dumb-shit mix freely with a genuine at empty materialism. Until for Parvez, Farid's transition occurs just when he's hitting particularly muddled the arrival of a German man, appropriately named The man, played unsparingly Swedish actor Stellan Skarsgård, soulless hedonist whose for cheap whores and coke inadvertently throws man together with a woman (Rachel Griffiths), who dreams of something else, least different.

The Prasad squad

Like Kureishi, director Prasad (best known for his film *102 Boulevard Haussmann*, starring Alan Bates as Marcel, an urbane Englishman with eye cocked on the older Marcel). Together, they toss a lot of cultural balls in the air and are juggled smoothly. They change some characters and rush to convey so many things would have been in one instance, to have the son (Rajiv—a Muslim teacher who stays with his bearded dad) turn out to be a wise teacher rather than a mute simpleton.

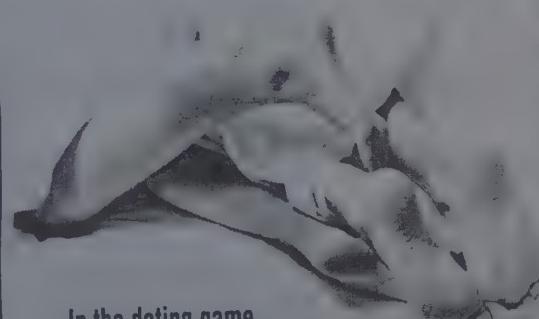
Still, the misogyny that lies the heart of all fundamentalism starkly exposed. "There's no room of God in spitting in the face of a woman," the father screeds. At point in this beautifully written and perfectly acted study, but the dad is drunk at the time, making it hard for the fanatic to sober up.

My Son the Fanatic

Starring Om Puri and Rachel Griffiths
Directed by Uday Prasad
Princess Theatre • Opens Sept. 8
433-0700

Movie Premiere

MICHAEL GOORJIAN CHANDRA WEST DAVID LOVGREN AND JENNIFER BEALS



In the dating game,
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Did you hear the one about...

...the 11th annual Storytelling Festival?

BY DAVID DICENZO

We all tell stories. We tell them when we come home from the office. We tell them when me meet for a social gathering. We tell them when we miss a deadline and a creative explanation to an editor becomes not only welcome, but a necessity (gulp).

The art of storytelling is a tradition that dates back tactically to the time when mankind began communicating. And as we continue to progress in terms of technology, there are people who firmly believe the oral tradition needs to be protected.

"Technology has made story-

telling more important," says Gail de Vos, co-organizer of the T.A.L.E.S. Storytelling Festival. "I find that people who spend lots of time on computers need to be able to communicate face to face. [Storytelling] is reviving now. In the last 20 years there has been an immense revival in Canada and the United States. People are realizing the power of the spoken word."

De Vos has been involved with the festival, now in its 11th year, since its inception. As an instructor at the University of Alberta in the School of Library and Information Studies, she is fully aware of the need to promote the spoken word. But one of the major hurdles faced by de Vos and T.A.L.E.S. co-organizer Merle Harris is the perception of storytelling as nothing more than a circle of children huddled around a librarian or teacher reading about a puppy who

lost his way.

"We have to combat the idea that storytelling is just for children," says de Vos. "We catch the people unawares. We want to introduce the concept of storytelling as something for everyone."

"Storytelling is our major communication tool," she continues. "When we try and understand something, we put it into the structure of a story."

How I got that story

And while de Vos still hopes to corral the odd unsuspecting passerby, she also knows that many visitors will be purposely attending the festival—whose theme this year is A Sense of Place—to catch some workshops and stories by special guests. This year, storyteller Sarah Ellis will be reciting work on the topic of Bad Habits, while

SEE NEXT PAGE

Providence

Continued from page 31

Corrente says Peter Farrelly wrote about a character he didn't know particularly well. He says that while Farrelly went to prep schools and met people like Timothy Dunphy, his father was a doctor. Corrente says his own working-class Pawtucket background gave him material Farrelly could never have invented. Thus, the story of the movie is weighted more toward Corrente's own story than the one found in the book.

"The movie is a collaboration of lives lived in Rhode Island," Corrente says. "In some ways, I think the book is more about my life than Peter Farrelly's. He wrote a book about a kid in Pawtucket, which is where I grew up. He gave me the book to make a movie out of because he knew that I knew these characters as well, if not better, than he did... He trusted me because of the kind of material that I have chosen to make films on in the past. He knew I could handle the drama, and so we managed to get through the debate of which scenes [from the book] include."

A.B. king

This scene that isn't in the book has Dorothy remembering a Christmas and his childhood. His parents give him an air rifle and then proceed to put the ornaments on the tree. Corrente says he lived the scene when he was a child.

"That is a scene that Peter and I disagreed on, if the truth be known. It scared him, but I put the scene in the movie because this young boy has a flashback to the warm, fuzzy moment that he remembers with his mother and dad and his brothers, and even though it is a little twisted, everything is just a little off. You can say that the mom is crazy at the end of the movie. You have to see it somehow. My idea was that you see this warm, fuzzy moment at 40 frames a second with the filters on the camera and then you see mom shooting things off the Christmas tree with what should be enough to let you know that things are a little crazy. But that scene actually happened to me growing up. It was somewhat different because my

mom and dad were crazy. My mom spent her summers in Canada and she actually shot trap and skeet. On Christmas, she took my pop gun and looked over at a half-broken Christmas bulb and she shot it. Then my father said to my brother, 'George, bring me that gun,' and before we knew it, my mom and dad were using mirrors to do trick shots. They shot every bulb off the Christmas tree before George and I got a chance to touch the gun."

Get your ass in here! Potemkin's on TV!

The life that Timothy lives in the book was mostly dissimilar from Corrente's youth. However, just like Dunphy, Corrente's father had a huge impact on his life. Corrente Sr.'s parents got divorced when he was very young. Illiterate, he attended movies at a local Pawtucket art house, but couldn't read the subtitles of the foreign-language films. He understood the actions enough to be able to enjoy the movie and, as he developed a family and television began to show classic films, he would make a point of bringing the boys in to watch them with him.

"My dad had seen every film that was ever made, and consequently the first films that I saw were in black and white, because he would drag us into the living room to watch the great movies like *The Bicycle Thief*, and I would have to

read the subtitles and my brother would tell me what was going on. I didn't like being called into the house when we were on the 30-yard line in the sandlot Super Bowl, but once the movie started, I usually relaxed and enjoyed it. I was glad I was there, because he loved films. That was my film school, because I never actually went to a conventional film school."

Rhode has mean streets

Corrente says that although he and the Farrelly brothers had different backgrounds, they both were formed by the same state—one, he says, in which the tone for rebellion was set long before either he or his writing partners were born.

"Rhode Island started out with a bad attitude," he says. "The state was founded by a guy named Roger Williams, who was practising religion in Massachusetts, and they told him he couldn't do it, so he said, 'I'm just going to do it my way,' and he went into Narragansett Bay and started a state. From that time on, everyone has had a chip on their shoulder, which is why I think it's a wonderful state for writing stories about and why I keep making movies about those stories." □

Outside Providence
Starring Alec Baldwin and Shannen Doherty
Directed by Michael Corrente
Now playing

"Outrageously funny...Best date movie of the year!"

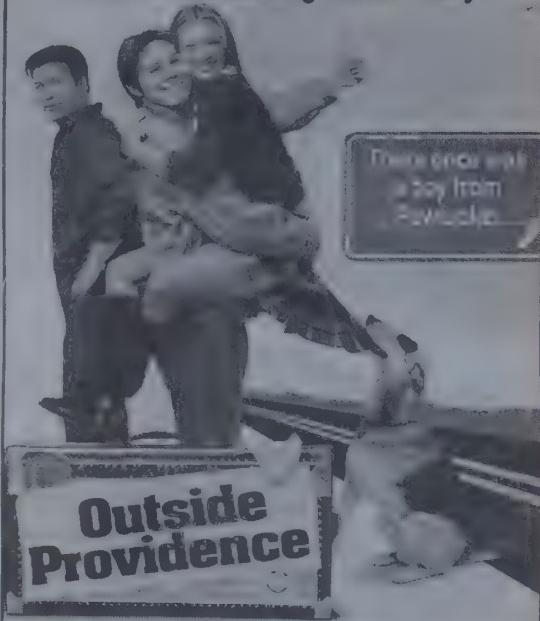
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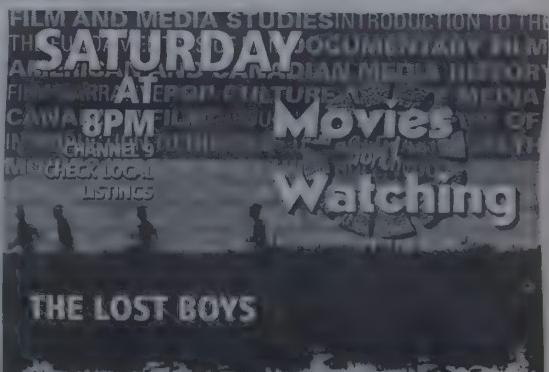
The Outrageous New Comedy From The Guys Who Made
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Directed by Michael Corrente
Screenplay by Peter Farrelly & Michael Corrente & Bobby Farrelly

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"One way to keep a vampire movie fresh is to mix horror or vampire movies with other genres. For example, *The Lost Boys* is a horror, comedy and gang movie."

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Taken from comments by
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The Education Station

orchesis

Classes begin
Monday September 13
Wednesday September 15
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Level III 6:30-8 pm
Level I 6-7:30 pm
Level II 7-8:30 pm

Classes, photograph
processing, prints
located at the Arts Centre E-19



BY DANIELLE ZYP

Faraway, so close!

Faraway Trading Company • At the Home Show • Sept 17-19 The moment you enter the doors of the Faraway Trading Company, the spicy aroma of exotic wood greets your nostrils. Your eyes are in for a treat, too, as they take in the mass of carved and painted objects that crowds the store. It's also worthwhile to cast a glance upward at the colourful kites shaped like butterflies, frogs, dragons and eagles that hang from the ceiling. With a five-metre wingspan, the big butterfly is the largest, but alas, it sold immediately for \$485. (The smallest kite is just one metre across and sells for \$69.) Although the kites are selling fast, don't despair—you can still see all of them flying and dancing through the air at Hawrelak Park (weather permitting) on Kite Day, September 12.

Faraway certainly lives up to its slogan, "Traders of the exotic and unaccustomed." Leering from a glass case are signature Indonesian masks, all hand-made by noted artists Nyoman Setiawan and Made Haitawan. Strewn atop a carved wooden box are fine grass woven bags from Borneo featuring intricate patterns that quickly dispel the old notion that basket weaving is easy. And owner Mel Haskewich assures me that their gorgeous hand-carved tables, chairs and sideboards are all moisture-treated to prevent them from cracking in our dry Alberta climate.

Some of the primitive art pieces are authentic artifacts—museum pieces, really—for example, the carved and painted shields that adorn the walls. Most of them are quite large and have faces and figures carved into them. Especially valuable is the Mbis Pole, which rests unobtrusively in the crook between two cabinets. Originating in Irian Jaya, Indonesia (the eastern half of Papua New Guinea), the ancestral Mbis Pole is traditionally carved prior to a head-hunting raid. The open work at the top of this floor-to-ceiling length of wood symbolizes fertility and is an expression of power and masculinity. It tells the story of the origin of Asmat (a.k.a. Death), of headhunting and the revenge of the Dead.

Purity of Eschen's

Robert von Eschen and **Bibi Clement** • Electrum Design Studio and Gallery • To Sept 18 Just half a block away from the exotic sights of the Faraway Trading Company (with the Teahouse in between) is the Electrum Design Studio and Gallery, the work of Robert von Eschen. His play. Von Eschen specializes in everyday objects—a little sugar shaker, say—and their reflections and highlights on canvas.

Also featured is the artwork of Bibi Clement, a teapot with a lichen-like texture that fits just so and a small elegantly bears the weight of its own attention to detail. Her bisque-fired raku bowl could not be broken without shattering to pieces, and her Saki decanter delicately displays what looks like a flower in bud.

All of this is complemented by owner Wayne Mackenzie, including the quirky "porter" wrought from gneiss, priced at a paltry (ha, ha) \$10. In this case, good things do come in small packages. ☺

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September 2 - October 2, 1999
Opening Reception: Thurs. Sept. 2, 7:30-10pm
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What's New Fall '99

Call for Submissions

The Art Rental and Sales Gallery will hold their Fall "What's New" exhibition of consignment art work beginning on October 22 and any artists interested in consigning their work through this popular gallery are invited to send their submissions to the selection committee.

Submission Procedure:

Initial selection of work will be made through slide submissions only. Submit between 10 - 15 slides accompanied by a c.v. (resume) and a slide list including: artist, title, medium, dimensions, and price. Please send slides of available artwork only. Submissions may be 2D or 3D, however exhibition space is limited and this will be a consideration in the selection process. Artwork must be framed (when applicable) and ready for exhibition and consignment.

**Submission deadline is
Saturday, October 2, 1999.**

For further details please contact the Art Rental and Sales Gallery at 429-1232.

The Edmonton Art Gallery
2 Sir Winston Churchill Square
Edmonton, AB T5J 2C1 ph: 429-1232

Spoken word

Continued from previous page

Melanie Ray delves into Water Magic.

Ray, a storyteller from Vancouver, has become intrigued with water as a theme for her stories. And because she lives on the ocean, she figured incorporating water into her work would be a natural fit.

"There is a healing power in water," says Ray. "We are composed of it, we need it to survive. It's a very vital element."

Ray has always had a story-teller in her waiting to break out. Fifteen years ago, while auditioning for a part in a play, she realized the power of the art. "It was this cattle call audition and my résumé certainly wasn't up to par," she recalls. "I thought of what I could do in two and a half minutes that would be a gift for them. I lost myself in the story gleefully. And it acted very powerfully on the three gentlemen behind the table because they weren't expecting it."

The writing is not on the wall

While Ray is now fully aware of the power of storytelling, she also knows the role the audience plays. She says her relationship with the audience is what sustains her, and the reactions and interpretations they have can make the same old

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story sound new and different each recital.

"There is no fourth wall in theatre," says Ray. "It's yourself, and you are responsible for the audience because with a blank wall I can't tell the story. They're going to see something in their heads, and I like to see on their faces if they're connecting with the words coming out of my mouth."

Anywhere from 4,000 to 10,000 people have the opportunity to participate in that reciprocal relationship this weekend. Even amateur storytellers will get their chance to perform as each day ends in a Story Swap, the festival's equivalent of an open stage.

"Storytelling is about being connected to each other and being reflective," says Ray. "It's a connection that all the tellers in the world cannot duplicate."

But that's another story. ☺

T.A.L.E.S. Storytelling Festival
Fort Edmonton Park • Sun-Mon, Sept 4-5-6 • Free admission • Call 439-1232 for cost of workshop registration

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RESTAURANT

A Taste of THE BIG EASY On Whyte!

10548A - 82 Avenue 433-0930

Theatre Notes

By PAUL MATWYCHUK

The fog machine creeps in on little cats' feet

Jubilee Auditorium • REVUE
"Cats" says a character in John

Square's play *Six Degrees of Separation*. "I thought you hated Cats. You

It was an all-time low in a lifetime of theatregoing. You said, 'Julius did not invent the theatre; he end up a bunch of chorus girls in cat suits prancing around—neither of which of them will go to heaven.'"

"That line always gets a huge laugh, especially since the people who go to John Guare plays are the same people who shake their heads in bewilderment at the popularity of Andrew Lloyd Webber's bizarre mega-musical, which is akin to a theme park than any sort of serious drama. But of course, a lovely conceit in Guare's play is that, despite themselves, the main characters—the Kittredges, a sophisticated New York art dealer and his wife—are genuinely excited when they think they might land a pair of parts in an upcoming movie version of *Cats*.

I had never seen *Cats* until this weekend, and I was leery. I tried reading a plot synopsis I found on the Internet, but I could only make it through three paragraphs chock-full of "Grizabella's" and "Skimbashanks'"s and "Rumpleteazer's" so my head started to hurt. My apprehension wasn't eased any when friend Wendy, who came to the show with me, told me that she had covered a *Cats* role-playing game on the Net in which, apparently, while assuming the roles of their favorite cats and interacted with another "in character." It sure doesn't sound like my kind of show—sure as hell ain't any RPGs related to *Sunday in the Park with Rosalind* anywhere online.

But would my wariness be borne by the show, I wondered? Or was I going to be like Flan and the Kittredges, and surrender to the show's mysterious charms?

In the result, I fell somewhere in the middle. My most anxious moments came at the start of the show, as the actors in their skin-tight bodysuits, with their oddly bushy and disappointingly limp tails, after a few minutes slinking up and down the aisles wearing glow-in-the-dark goggles as if they were such jewel thieves in a 1980s movie. (Does anyone actually know when the cast of a musical enters the audience? Don't direct me to realize how uncomfortable it feels? A show that involves stage participation is the theatrical equivalent of Judge Reinhold's "talking" character from *Seinfeld*. You can't help but involuntarily do it.)

To my surprise, the show was not just its charm, although I preferred the more old-fashioned, musical elements—the duet between Grizabella and Rumpleteazer, or the Asparagus, the theatre cat to the overlong and incomprehensible "Awful Battle of the Pekes" and the antics of the Tugger, whose songs strive to inject some "rock 'n' roll" into the score.

And the show's bizarre ending—in which, in accordance with some dubious feline theology, an aging female cat named Grizabella climbs on board a flying car tire to voyage past "the Heavyside Layer" and get reborn into a "new Jellie life"—left me cold. How come she gets reborn, anyway? Why not poor, pathetic, paws-pawed Gus, who seemed much more deserving of the prize to me? (The wise guru Old Deuteronomy seems to choose Grizabella simply on the basis of her belt-it-out performance of "Memory," as if he were a judge on *Star Search*.)

There was nothing half-assed about the effort the cast put forth—Julius Serumonia (a nimble Mr. Mistoffles) and Kelly Briggs (doing excellent character singing as both Bustopher Jones and Asparagus) were particular audience favourites. I enjoyed their work, too, and appreciated the professionalism of this production, but seeing as I can barely bring myself to type out cuties names like "Mr. Mistoffles" and "Grizabella" (did T.S. Eliot, you know, lose his mind when he wrote this stuff?), I suspect there may still be more than six degrees of separation between myself and the audience that leapt so quickly to its feet at the Jubilee last Sunday to give the show a raucous standing ovation.

See see Rider

The New York Fringe Theatre Festival ended last Sunday, and as *Vue Weekly* reported a few weeks ago, *The Black Rider*, one of the big Edmonton Fringe hits from 1998, participated. My diligent Web search was unable to uncover any articles about the show from any of the three major New York dailies—the Fringe does not take over the public's imagination in New York

the way it does in Edmonton—but plaudits from the extremely positive reviews I did find via a pair of websites devoted to New York theatre. *The Black Rider* was nothing short of a spectacular success.

The pre-show energy at the show was comparable to being in the theatre during the first weekend of *The Phantom Menace*, only this lives up to the hype," writes Peter Shaughnessy of BackStage.com. "The Canadian troupe of actors is six members strong, and I do mean strong... none of them fails to impress us. As an ensemble, they electrify the stage, thanks to keen direction by R.M. Jenkins."

Antonia Sacre of TheatreReviews.com voices similar sentiments, reporting sold-out performances at the New York Fringe's premier venues and rabidly enthusiastic audiences. "I feel like I have been to hell and back," he says, "and enjoyed every minute of the ride... This disturbing operetta may be the Fringe's only 'must-see'."

Trag'ast tu? Please pardon my French, when you decide that the other hot ticket at the New York Fringe was something called *Urinetown: the Musical*, a play set in a mythical city where only the rich can afford to go to the bathroom.

You've got another Kink! coming

One quick final note: the hit of this year's Edmonton Fringe, Paul Morgan Donald's Betty Page musical *Kink!* has been held over yet again at the Roxy—you can still catch sight of Kimberly Carroll, Carmen Davison and Shari Matkin dancing around in their underwear Thursday, September 2 at 8 p.m. Um, and I think some guys are in it, too. ☺

ARTS Weekly

For a FREE listing, fax 426-2889 or e-mail listings@vive.ab.ca. Deadline is 3 pm Friday.

Art events

EDMONTON ART GALLERY 2 Sir Winston Churchill Sq., 422-6223

*CROSSING THE WILDERNESS Until Oct. 11. TOM THOMSON AND THE ORK. Al Seben: Featuring works from the EAG Collection. Until Mar. 26. *URBAN/SUB URBAN Discover the dual nature of urban and suburban spaces. The photographs in this exhibition span the decades from the 1930s to the present, mapping out shifting landscapes of urban centres and suburban communities, and the pleasures and perils that exist within both. Until Oct. 11. *NOT DISTURB: THE IMAGE OF AN LT. Works from the EAG collection including recent acquisitions by Douglas Coupland, Eli Langer and John Scott. Until Jan. 24, 2000. *LAUREN HARRIS/A/Y JACK ON JASPER AND ROBSON 1924-Harris and Jackson explore the landscape of Maligne Lake, Tongue Valley, Athabasca Valley, Mount Edith Cavell, Mount Robson. This exhibition brings together paintings, drawings, photographs and archival material that document Harris and Jackson's time in Jasper. Until Jan. 16, 2000. *MODEL HOMES: EXPLORATION IN ALTERNATE LIVING.

Contemporary Canadian and international artists look at artistic solutions for the problems of 21st century living Sept. 10-Jan. 16, 2000. *THE KITCHEN ELFANO (AZARE QIN ANAKUN) Photo bazaar works Lazaro examines the themes of travel and tourism, memory and expectation and the inevitable processes of change and transformation that take place over time. Sept. 10-Jan. 16, 2000. *CONTEMPORARY ART ISSUES READING GROUP: An ongoing forum for the discussion of ideas, trends and movements that have shaped contemporary art in Edmonton and abroad.

Selected readings complement themes and issues being explored in current EAG exhibitions. Every second THU, starting Sept. 9, 7-9 pm. *OPENING CELEBRATION OF EARLY FALL EXHIBITIONS: Harris/Jackson; Jasper and Robson 1924; Model Homes: Explorations in Alternate Living; and Eleanor Lazarus: Quintana Roo. FRI, Sept. 10, 7 pm. *SEISMIC SUN-DAY: SUN 12; (1 pm). At Home in the Future—A Family Fun Workshop: Dawn McLean. (2 pm); Philosophy of Camping—A Lively Debate: Lisa Christensen & Christopher Jackson. (3 pm); Model Homes—Curator's Tour: Catherine Crowston.

HARCOURT HOUSE GALLERY 3rd Floor, 10215-112 St., 426-4180. *TOUCHED: Paintings by Helena Wadsley. About the experience of the body—what it means to live in the body, have experiences written on the body. *FRONT ROOM: MORE PIN-UPS: Drawings by Tessa Nunn. Studies in the figure—unfinished and unconsidered. Sept. 2-Oct. 2. *Opening reception: THU, Sept. 2, 7:30-10 pm. *THU 2 (7:30 pm): Annex: Art Education Open House.

STRATHcona PLACE ART GALLERY 10831 University Ave., 433-5807. Works by Nancy Cormigan. Sept. 6-29. *Open house, WED, Sept. 8, 6:30 pm, Main Lounge.

SUGAR BOWL 10922-88 Ave. WHITE BREW: New works by Jeff Sylvester. Sept. 12-Nov. 13. Opening reception: SUN, Sept. 12, 7-11 pm.

ZIEGLER HUGHES GALLERY & SERENDIPITY FRAMING 9860-90 Ave., 433-0388. *SILENT BUILDINGS: Water colours by Ian Sheldon evoke the untold stories of our heritage and of our former intimacy with the land. Opening reception, SAT, Sept. 4, 12-5 pm. Also Celtic Jewellery by Des Nobels of Digby Island. Open Mon-Wed, Fri-Sat: 10-6, Thu 10-8. Closed Sun.

LATITUDE 53 10137-104 St., 423-5353. PILLOW SCENES: Large-scale black and white photographs and soundscapes create a dissonant dream world. SCENE 4: THE FALLING DREAM: Noir style photographs of male and female figures in repose, alluding to violence contrasted with rituals of beauty. Installation by Mark Laliberte (Ontario). Until Sept. 4.

THE LOOK 2824 Calgary Trail, 436-1400. Exhibition of local art featuring all mediums, styles and techniques. Featuring Ken Brown, Carol Cairns, Doris Charest, Ruth Dynes, Sylvia Dubrule, Claude Garneau, Tania Garner-Tomas, Sharon Hazen, Betty Jess, Audrey Josephson, David Kieller, Thomas Love, Jay Kristiansen, Dolly May, Dave Ripley, Jean Roth, Loraine Ure, Tracey Verburg.

MANIFESTO-A CULTURE COUNTER 10043 102 St., 423-7901. 99 NEW FANS: Work by Allan Ball. Until Sept. 10. *CLONOPLAST: The art of Les Paterson. Until Sept. 7.

MAZZUCA II 8200-104 St., 414-0412. *Gallery Artists: Paul Cochrane, Ruby Goldring, Neil McClelland, Helena Bali, K.C. van Tassel.

Introducing the work and acrylics by Michael Robert Goulet—muralist. Ongoing show by gallery artists: Frances Alt-Yarscott, Fran Heath, Pat Wagenveld, Joe Haire, Neeta Koticha, Jeanne Stangeland, Min Ma, Elsie Dequhart, Thomas Hinton, Doris Charest, Glenda Beaver, Tim & Cheryl Jensen, Lewis Lavoie and Andrew Raszewski.

ENTRE D'ARTS VISUELLES DE L'ALBERTA 20-8527-91 St., 461-3427. MIXED PAPER: Featuring: Therese Bourassa—paintings Ruth Dowen—etchings: Agatha St-Pierre—acrylics and watercolours. Francoise Hiset—sewing artist. Until Sept. 7.

DOUGLAS UDELL GALLERY 10133-104 St., 436-4455. Works by Canadian and international artists featuring: works by Bruce Lomax, Dorothy Kimball, William H. Holland, Cecile Fonseca, Tony Scherman, and others.

EDMONTON GENERAL EXHIBITION CARE CENTRE 11001 Jasper Ave., 930-5611. EXT 6475. *R Wino Corridor Main gallery. *LITE: Selected work from the collection of the Alberta Foundation for the Arts. Until Sept. 28.

ELECTRUM DESIGN STUDIO'S GALLERY 12419 Stony Plain Road 482-1402. Bibi Clement—wood-fired ceramics by Robert von Eschen—recent oil paintings. Until Sept. 18.

FAR GALLERY 1-1 Fine Arts Bldg., U of A, 112 St., 89 Ave., 492-3081. THE BI SHENG ELECTRONIC BEE: Like a rock less like a computer. Stan Ruecker—final visual presentation for the design. *Master of Design in Visual Communication Design. Until Sept. 5.

FARAWAY TRADING CO. 12403 Stony Plain Rd., 448-9252. THE EXOTIC & UNACCUSTOMED: featuring Primitive art from Incan Java: Marc paintings (bark cloth), war clubs, artifacts, museum pieces and more. Mon-Sat, 10 am-6 pm.

THE FRINGE GALLERY BSMT., 10516 Whyte Ave., 432-0240. *GROUP SHOW Until Sept. 30.

GALLERY DE JONGE 27022A Hwy 16, Spruce Grove, 962-9505. Group exhibition, gallery artists.

GALLERY 124 10240-124 St., 488-4575. TUE-SAT 1-5 pm, SUN 11-3 pm. *OTHER PLACES, OTHER TIMES: St. Petersburg artist, Igor Plepa, quache and water colour works of ancient cities and the Arabian Nights. Until Sept. 8.

GIORDANO GALLERY 208 Empire Bldg., 10080 Jasper Ave., 429-5066. Wed. & Sat. 11 am-5 pm or by appointment.

GREY NUNS COMMUNITY HOSPITAL HEALTH CENTRE 1100 Youville Dr. W., O Level, 930-5611-Ext 6475. GERMAN VILLEGAS. Until Sept. 21.

IML GALLERY 10822 Whyte Ave., 433-7834. RURAL LIFE OF YESTERDAY: Water colours by Jim Cupido. Until Sept. 13.

KAMENA GALLERY 5718-104 St., 944-9497. A SUMMER MIX: Originals by Willie Wong, Edwin Tut, Kee Tung, Wong, Roybal, David Lee & posters & prints by Bateman, Lyman, Vivian Thierfelder, Jennifer Annesley, Johannus Boots, Lo Hing Kwok, Romero Britto.

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ART BEAT GALLERY & FRAME #8 Mission Ave., St. Albert, 459-3679.

Art galleries

ALBERTA CRAFT COUNCIL GALLERY 10106-124 St., 488-6611, 488-5900

ART OF THE BOOK '98: Celebrating the 15th Anniversary of the Canadian Bookbinders and Book Artists Guild. A wide variety of work reflecting the overlapping elements of the book arts. Until Sept. 11.

ART BEAT GALLERY & FRAME #8

Mission Ave., St. Albert, 459-3679.

Skopek's counts their kopeks

BY JENNIFER COCKRALL-KING

Why is it that people who aren't originally from Edmonton seem to sing its praises the loudest? Take Christine Janicki, owner and operator of Skopek's Bake Shop. One of eight children in a Polish-Canadian family, Janicki hails from B.C., but she talks about Edmonton—especially downtown Edmonton—with as much passion as she does her other two loves: baking and singing.

For the past three and a half years, Janicki has been running a successful bake shop and cafe in the Birks Building on 104 St and Jasper Ave. She credits the success of her business to her loyal clients, mainly drawn from Edmonton's energetic downtown arts community. While it's true that a good location and a great community of patrons never hurt anyone, Janicki's baking stands on its own as some of the best in Edmonton.

Janicki admits that she jumped into the food service business rather blindly. "It's a good thing that I was

ignorant going in of all the work that is involved—otherwise, I might not have done it," she confesses. Before opening Skopek's, Janicki had some experience catering from her home. In 1992, she met and began working with Edmonton chef Michelle DeLand, who further instilled in her a love of good food and good cooking. Janicki credits DeLand with teaching her the basics of good cooking, how to use real flavours and the principle that taste is what matters above all else.

Baker's dozen

To this day, Janicki has remained true to those lessons. Her small bake shop has seating for about 15 people and she has remained intent on providing nourishing baked goods made from scratch. So, while the menu may seem small at first (only 13 or so regular items), it is actually rather impressive, since every item is baked from scratch in front of your eyes in Skopek's tiny open kitchen. That way, customers get the complete bake shop experience—the

food

aroma alone of the cinnamon buns, sweet danishes, Scottish rock cake, apple cake (Janicki's recipe), whole wheat bread, Snacks (granola bars) and butter strip—which is between shortbread and chocolate chip cookies.

A classically trained singer, Janicki balances her singing career thanks to scheduling. But if she didn't have a bake shop, and didn't have a professional singer, Janicki says she would work for Edmonton, spreading the word that there is a great place to live and work.

Skopek's is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and open on Saturdays starting at 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Skopek's Bake Shop
10115-104 St. 4...

DISH Weekly

LEGEND

\$	Up to \$10 per*
\$\$	\$10-20 per
\$\$\$	\$20-30 per
\$\$\$\$	30 per & up

* Price per person, before tax & tip

ALTERNATIVE

BADASS JACK'S (8621-109 St., 4204-137 Ave., 4211-106 St.) Edmonton's first and original Californian wraps. \$

Ber-zerk (8128-103 St., 431-9864) Bigger scoops + low prices = A Big Hit! \$

Le Brasserie (10332 Whyte Ave., 434-6597) The freshest burgers, tantalizing chicken burgers and homemade pizza, pitchers of beer, and Italian pastries. \$

Cafe Mosaics (10844 Whyte Ave., 433-9702) A wide variety of homemade, healthy meals, featuring many selections for vegetarians. \$

Hemp Cafe (10332 - 81 Ave., 988-2098) Sandwiches, salads, baked goods and a variety of fresh hemp items. Support the new attitude—try our Hemp coffee. \$

Route 99 Diner (8820-99 St., 432-6860) 50's diner with an abundance of memorabilia, a jukebox playing 50's music and a great variety of food. \$-\$

BAKERIES

Mr. Samosa (14981-Stony Plain Rd., 499-2175) A creative East Indian snack shop known for their samosas.

Makapakape (13042-50 St., 413-4165) No place like it in N.E. Edmonton. A huge variety of special coffee, nachos, sandwiches, wraps. \$

Market Cafe (16615-109 Ave., 930-4060) Fast, fun and for the family. Featuring daily breakfast, lunch & dinner buffet and a delightful A La Carte menu. \$-\$

CAFES

Aroma Borealis (Coopers & Lybrand Building, 211, 10130-103 St., 944-9693) Designer sandwiches, latte, cappuccino, great coffee, & fabulous desserts by Skopek's Bake Shop. \$

Benny's Bagels Cafe on Whyte (10460-82 Ave., 414-0007) Come for breakfast, lunch, or for a latte or cappuccino after a night out. Check out our patio for the hot summer days. \$

Breadstick Cafe (10159-Whyte Ave., 548-5998) Open 24 hours. Licensed. Catering. \$

Sunterra Market (Commerce Place, 201, 10150 Jasper Ave.) Muffins and pastries freshly made at our on-site bakery. \$

CAJUN

Cajun House (7 St. Anne St., St. Albert, 460-8772) Worth the drive to sample some of the best jambalaya and gumbo in the province. \$

Da-De-O (10548-82 Ave. 433-7999) Funky-style restaurant in an old-style diner on Whyte Ave. \$

Louisiana Purchase (10320-111 St., 420-6779) Higher-end style of cooking from the Bayou & great atmosphere. \$

CANADIAN

Barb & Ernie's (9906-72 Ave. 433-5138) One of the best mom & pop operations in the city. \$

Billiards Club (2 fl. 10505-82 Ave. 432-0335) Rack 'em up and chop down, with heaps of burgers & mugs of ale. \$

Bones (10220-103 St., 421-4747) Known as the place for ribs on the Boardwalk. \$

David's (8407 Argyle Rd., 468-1678) Specializing in Alberta beef dishes on the south of the town. \$

Devlin's (10507 - 82 Ave., 437-7489) Now serving lunch specials. All soup and sandwich combos now \$6.95. Also 1/2 price Happy Hour drinks & food daily. \$

Franklin's Inn Dining Room (9906-72 Ave. 433-5138) Sherwood Park 432-1234) All day breakfast and a great selection of all your favourites. \$

The Garage Burger Bar and Grill (1024-106 St., 423-5014) Best home-made burgers with daily specials at student-friendly prices.

The Grinder (10957-124 St., 1709) 20 years old but under management. Also lounge and games room. \$\$-\$

High Level Diner (10912-88 Ave. 433-0993) Wholesome and health-conscious Known for their tasty meat and veggie burgers. \$

Insomnia Pub (5522-Calgary Trail South, 414-1743) Cool place for the new, cool generation. Great food, great atmosphere, awesome prices.

Keegan's (8709-109 St., 439-8939) At any hour, the last word in Hungry Rancheros. \$

Larry's Cafe (6, 10015-82 Ave. 414-6040) Best breakfasts and lunches on the south side. Cheap prices! \$

Louie's Submarine (8109-104 St. 431-0897) In-store fresh baked bread. Soups and salads. Catering business & social lunches or dinners. \$

Mayfield Grill (1665-109 Ave. 4062) Casual dining in an extensive atmosphere, extensive menu. lunch and dinner, best Sunday

Whoopsy. When *Vue Weekly* profiled artist **Doug Jamha** last week, we neglected to mention where his exhibit of female nudes was on display. (Gee, we sure got a lot of calls from people interested in seeing his work. We had no male nudes—were they so popular?) We apologize for the oversight: the paintings, including *D.H.* (pictured), are hanging until September 16 in *Cafe la Gare*, many of whose patrons will undoubtedly no longer need caffeine to get their pulses racing.

437-5846. Works by Dale Nigel Goble, by appointment only.

THE SUGARBOWL 10922-88 Ave.

• **MON CAHIER**: Works by the Nouveau Nouveau Painters: Flava H, Honky G, Notorious R.O.B., Yawnae and Comrade Connor.

VANDERLEELIE GALLERY 10344-134 St., 452-0286. Hours: Tues-Sat 10 am-5:30 pm.

WALTERDALE THEATRE Lobby, 10322-83 Ave., 471-5246. 15

WOMEN: Portraits, oil on canvas, works by Larry Andreoff. Tues-Sat 7-8 pm; Sun 1-2 pm.

ART GALLERY & PORTFOLIOS

ON-LINE KRISTEN ZUK

plaza.v-wave.com/gilan/art/kirsten.htm

Sculptures by artist Kristen Zuk.

DALE NIGEL GOBLE ON-LINE

www.telusplanet.net/public/dng23/dng.htm

SANDEA A & THE VISIONS GROUP OF ARTISTS

members.home.net/sandea/Index.htm

Formerly members of Eagle One Gallery in Edmonton.

SURREAL & FANTASY OIL PAINTINGS ON-LINE COSMIC HORIZONS

www.geocities.com/SoHo/Gallery/6298.htm

Theatre

FOREVER PLAID Mayfield Dinner Theatre, 16615-109 Ave., 483-4051. With a series of well-loved songs and patter. Laugh at the patter and hum to the great pop hits of the '50s. Until Sept. 12.

FRINGE HOLD OVERS @ THE ROXY: 10708-124 St., 453-2440. • **KINK!** The Musical is presented by Pegasus Theatre, by Paul Morgan Donald.

Based on the career of Bettie Page, the 1950's pin-up model whose photographs broke taboos and provoked a U.S. Senate Committee investigation. At the height of her fame, she vanished without a trace. She is the most photographed woman in history. THU, Sept. 2, 8 pm.

THE LEGEND OF THE GHOST TOWN GOLDRUSH Celebrations Dinner Theatre, 13103 Fort Rd., 448-9339.

Tumbleweeds, home of Sasparilla Sam, king of the goldrush and his side kick Sadsack Joe. Until Oct. 17. TIX: \$49, kids 12 and under \$20. Discounts for seniors, students.

MELODRAMIX Festival Place, Sherwood Park, 449-FEST (337).

Firelight Theatre every Sun (7:30 pm), comedy and an improvised soap opera.

ROCK N' ROLL INCARCERATION

Jubilations Theatre, WFM Phase III, 484-2424. Come along to Sing Song Prison for the fifth annual inmate talent contest. This little contest has become a "break-out" hit—the prison board has decided to award a

\$100,000 prize to the winner to be used for prison renovations. Enter "The Lads", an aspiring British rock band, who just happen to be in town for a concert. Warren Buckley has big plans for The Lads... and the money.

A dirty warden, a hundred grand, a hapless rock hand and you in a rock 'n' roll lockup. Sept. 3-Nov. 14.

SOCIETY OF WESTERN CANADIAN ARTISTS Manulife Place, 10180-101 St., 476-8552. A juried exhibition and sale of work, until Sept. 22.

SPECIAL-T GALLERY 284 Saddleback Rd., 437-1192. Featuring new works by Audrey Pfannmuller, Cindy Barratt and Jean Elizabeth Tait. Also new whimsical clay creations by Willie Campbell. Mon-Sat 10 am-5:30 pm.

STONY PLAIN MULTICULTURAL HERITAGE CENTRE • **GENERATIONS GALLERY**: Acrylic paintings by Andrew Raszewski; Clay works by Katrina Chatoyer-Rozman. Until Sept. 20.

• GALLERIE DINING ROOM: Photographs by Conny Schuster. Until Sept. 13.

STUDIO #2 10435-81 Ave.,

Continued from previous page

Quick Bites

The Westin Hotel has announced that its new executive chef is Emmanuel David. This talented and energetic chef is a member of Culinary Team Canada and is a veteran of several international culinary competitions. Chef David will be in charge of the Westin's busy caterer department as well as Pradera Cafe. Look for great new things on the Westin menu.

Anyone driving by the old Earl's location on Jasper Ave and 121 St. has undoubtedly noticed that new tenants are moving in. Scheduled to open sometime in September is the Big Fresh, an up-scale grocery specializing in organic meats and produce. Part of the convenient grocery experience will be the separate free parking which will make for delicious, hassle-free downtown shopping.

Known as "the kitchen store that comes to your door," The Pampered Chef-Canada Ltd. offers home demonstrations of their unique line of professional quality kitchen tools. One of their kitchen consultants can arrange an in-home demonstration and prepare various food items for you and your guests using their products, many of which are exclusive to the Pampered Chef. For more information, to order a catalogue or to book a demonstration, call Nancy at 985-2501.

BRUNCH
Nellie's Tea Shoppe (12606-118 Ave., 452-9429) Home-made meals, specializing in traditional English tea and gourmet evening meals. \$

FAST RESTAURANT (10331-82 Ave., 439-9930) An eclectic assortment of appetizers, entrees and pastas, and vegetable desserts.

THE RAVEN (10338-81 Ave., 431-1981) Eclectic selection of "wood-fired food" with Old Strathcona's meat steaks and oven-roasted chicken. \$

JOE'S BAR & GRILL (10604-101 Ave., 432-3499) Nothing fancy, but simple home cooking without the fat. \$

THE SIDETRACK CAFE (10333-112 St., 439-3326) Whether you like succulent steak, decadent eggs Benedict in the morning or late-night chicken wings, The Sidetrack Cafe's kitchen will do it for you. \$-\$

QUOTES PUB/STARVIN' MARVIN'S (10305-82 Ave., 439-8594) We invite you for daily and monthly specials, as well as Happy Hour from 4-8 pm.

THE TEA HOUSE (52404 Range Rd. N., Ardrossan, AB, T9Z-2279, 922-1333) Country fresh foods for lunch, breakfast, antiques, local crafts and unique gifts to take around. Breakfast & lunch \$;

THE CREEK CAFE (8404-109 St., 434-2024) Continental-style bistro with good variety of dishes and meat stir-fries, pasta and more. \$\$

BEARFOOT RESTAURANT (9602-82 Ave., 432-0480) Over 17 years of dining in a fine dining establishment in a newly renovated building. \$\$\$

THE LOUNGE (8103-105 St., 439-1105) For lunch, dinner or late night, an experience wholesome home-burgers. \$

THE VILLAGE CAFE (11223 Jasper Ave., 437-1755) Serves homemade gourmets prepared by red seal site. Specializing in prime

rib, seafood, pasta and stir fries
Von's Steak and Fish House (10309-81 Ave., 439-0041) Alberta beef at its best and great seafood, too. \$\$\$

ZAC'S PLACE CAFE AND PUB (Fort. 9855-76 Ave., 439-1901) Featuring their famous ultimate burger and all day breakfasts. \$

CHINESE

Genghis Grill (10080 Jasper Ave., 424-6197) "A Mongolian food experience." \$

MAN'S CAFE (12520-118 Ave., 452-3672) A super stop for a variety of tasty treats. Make sure to try the Oriental Stir-fry. \$

EAST INDIAN

Jewel of Kashmir (7219-104 St., 438-4646) Discover a place that's out of this world. Designed to capture the excitement & glamour of India. \$

Khazana (10177-107 St., 702-0330) Authentic Tandoori cuisine in one of Edmonton's most elegant dining rooms. \$

MR. SAMOSA (9630-142 St., 451-5687) Let your taste buds jump with joy with a whole new experience in the authentic East Indian cuisine. \$

New Asian Village (10143 Saskatchewan Dr., 433-3804) Cooking at its best from the subcontinent with a great panoramic river valley view. \$

Spicey House (9777-102 A Ave., Canada Place (Food Court), 425-0193 or 475-0496) Veg & non-veg curries with choice herbs, the secret to the intoxicating flavour of Indian cuisine. \$

EUROPEAN

CONTINENTAL TREAT (10560-82 Ave., 433-7432) Enjoy excellent European cuisine in an elegant yet comfortable atmosphere. \$

MADISON'S GRILL (Union Bank Inn, 10053 Jasper Ave., 423-3600) Unique historical building; upscale regional cuisine with a European influence. \$\$

FRENCH CUISINE

Cafe Amande (8523-91 St., 465-1919) Fine french cuisine. Entertainment night: Fri & Sat. \$

THE CREPERIE (10200-103 St., 420-6656) Award-winning Edmonton institution without haute price. \$

THREE MUSKATEERS (10416-82 Ave., 437-4239) Come and try our traditional French cuisine at an affordable price in a unique setting. Patio now open! \$

GREEK

Koutouki Taverna (10704-124 St., next to Roxy Theatre, 452-5383) The most authentic Greek food in Edmonton, prepared by the original Yianni himself.

Symposium on Whyte (10439-82 Ave., 2nd Floor, 433-7912) Innovative Greek cuisine in a beautiful open setting overlooking Whyte Ave. \$-\$

Syntaki Greek Island Restaurant (16313-111 Ave., 484-2473) Visit the Greek Islands in Edmonton. \$

YANNIS TAVERNA RESTAURANT (10444-82 Ave., 433-6768) Authentic Greek food, belly dancing, and the friendly staff create a fun and boisterous atmosphere. \$-\$

IRISH PUB

O'BYRNE'S IRISH PUB (10616-Whyte Ave., 414-6766) We serve a variety of pub food, all hand-made with care and pride. From our homemade fish 'n' chips to our near famous Irish breakfast. Our menu changes daily, so please come in & indulge in the experience. \$-\$

ITALIAN

Bruno's Italian Restaurant (9914-89 Ave., 433-8161) Quiet, family-style dining and one of Edmonton's best kept secrets. \$

Chianti (10501-82 Ave., 439-8729) Boticelli paintings serve as a nice backdrop in establishment offering the best pasta selections in town. \$

Fiore Cantina Italiana (8715-109 St., 439-8466) Good, affordable, restaurant off campus. \$

Frank's Place-Pacific Fish (10020-101 A Ave., 422-0282) Situated 1/2 block from Churchill Square and

Summer Festival Fun! An extensive Italian and seafood menu and friendly efficient service ensure a return visit. \$-\$

Giovanni's Restaurant (10130-107 St., 426-2021) Delicious cuisine for a song-featuring Giovanni himself when he breaks into a heart-stopping aria. \$

Il Portico (10012-107 St., 424-0707) Trendy downtown restaurant with fresh imaginative dishes. \$

Italian Kitchen Restaurant (69 Ave., 178 St., Callingwood Mall, 489-5619) Relaxing Italian dining. From pastas such as *Lettuccine alfredo* to dishes such as *steak Diane*.

Sheeky's (7263 Argyle Rd., 426-8983 & 10310-103 St., 424-8657) Real food, real fast. Terrific Italian Dishes. Soups/salads/sandwiches made from scratch. Call ahead for reservations. \$

Sorrentino's (10844-95 St., 425-0960) In the heart of Little Italy, serves delicious authentic Italian fare. \$

Sorrentino's Whyte Avenue (10612-82 Ave., Varscona Hotel, 474-9860) Authentic Italian cooking. Tantalizing appetizers, pizzas, calzones, pasta, sandwiches and entrees. \$

The Old Spaghetti Factory (10220-103 St., 422-6088) Heaping plates of spaghetti served with their patented thick, tasty sauce. \$

Tony Roma's (11730 Jasper Ave., 438-1971) Great barbecue chicken and ribs with lots of food on your plate. \$

Zenari's on 1st (10117-101 St., 425-6151) Humble Artsy hang-out with appetizing combinations of soup, sandwiches and pasta. \$

JAPANESE

Furusato (10012-82 Ave., 439-1335) Cozy Restaurant featuring a choice selection of meals from the Land of the Rising Sun. \$

Mikado (10350-109 St., 425-8096) The oldest Japanese restaurant in Edmonton for a good reason. \$

Osaka (10511-82 Ave., 944-1388) Good affordable sushi and other authentic specialties on Whyte Ave.

MEXICAN

Julio's Barrio (10450-82 Ave., 431-7074) Hearty dishes in a trendy neighbourhood, perfect for your next fiesta. \$

Long Star Cafe (11811 Jasper Ave., 488-4330) Canada's only authentic Texas Restaurant. \$

Senor Frog's (10045-109 St., 429-FROG) Good food in a party mood! Restaurant Bar & Grill. Innovative Mexican cuisine. \$

PASTRY SHOP

Alain Patisserie (9925-82 Ave., 988-1212) Quality french breads and pastries. Also serving sandwiches, quiches and specialty coffee. \$

PIZZA

Funky Pickle (10441-82 Ave., 433-3865) Neatly tucked away on Whyte, offers tasty slices every time. Best Pizza Edmonton Journal, 1996, 97; Edmonton Journal 4-star rating. Take advantage of their free delivery. \$

Miami Pizza (8424-109 St., 433-0723) Edmonton's famous pizza since 1985, offers tasty home-made pizza. Dine in, free delivery. \$

Park Lounge & Sports Bar (Franklin's Inn, 2016 Sherwood Dr., Sherwood Park, 467-1234) "More than worth the trip." Sherwood Park's best pizza for over 15 years. Unbelievable daily specials to complement our full menu! \$-\$

Pharos Pizza (8708-109 St., 433-5205) World famous pizza since 1970. Made with fresh ingredients and no preservatives. Try our Popeye, it's our specialty. We also offer small dishes for individuals. \$

PUBS

Elephant & Castle (3 locations: 103 St. & Whyte Ave.; Eaton Centre-3rd Level; West Edmonton Mall near Entrance #8) Your comfort spot, with a great selection of British favourites—appetizers, burgers, salads and of course the finest British & Canadian beer and single-malt scotch. \$

Gallery Bar (16615-109 Ave.,

Mayfield Inn & Suites Hotel) Comfortable, cozy after-hours entertainment. '60s-'80s music at its very best Thur-Sat evenings. \$

Martini's Bar & Grill (9910-109 St., 424-7219) Enjoy our 25+ custom martinis, 15+ single-malt scotch collection, evening steak sandwich specials and selection of craft beers all in an environment conducive to relaxation! \$-\$

Nathan's Pub & Grill (8930 Jasper Ave., 421-4651) Great food-large servings and value for your money. \$

Pub Paradise Sports Bar (422-118 Ave., 471-3526) Edmonton's only caribbean & continental sports bar. Featuring 11 flavours of

wings and the best jerk chicken in the city. Daily specials. Sun, Mon: VWU Wrestling Nite; Wed: karaoke; Fri: Caribbean Night; Sat: Party Nite. \$

The Sherlock Holmes Pubs (10012-101 Ave., 8770-170 St., 10341-82 Ave., 5004-98 Ave.) For a taste of the good old times, come on in and try our British and continental menu. Recently revised with nearly 20 new dishes, we'll have something to tempt your tastebuds! Try a vegetarian quesadilla or Chicken Cordon Bleu sandwich, or if you're feeling a little British, you can't go wrong with Steak 'n' Kidney Pie or our ultimate halibut & chips! Daily specials also offered. \$-\$



ACAJUTLA RESTAURANT

Salvadorean & Mexican Food

Business Hours

Tue-Thur	11am-9pm
Fri-Sat	11am-10pm
Sun	11am-9pm

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In the 1950's,
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never be
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the same again.

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turned his
attention to
his guitar.
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EVENTS Weekly

For a FREE listing, fax 426-2889 or e-mail listings@vive.ab.ca. Deadline is 3 pm Friday.

Displays/Museums

ALBERTA AVIATION MUSEUM 11410 Kingsway Ave., 433-1078. Aircraft on display and under restoration. Civil and military aviation history.

ALBERTA RAILWAY MUSEUM 24215-3 St., 472-6229. Housed in the railway station built at St. Albert in 1909.

ALLEY KAT BREWING COMPANY 9929-60 Ave., 436-8922. Visit Edmonton's smallest microbrewery, see how Alley Kat's award-winning craft beers are brewed, taste Alley Kat's all-natural beer. THU-FRI 2-4 pm or call for a guided tour.

CANADA'S AVIATION HALL OF FAME Reynolds Alberta Museum, Hwy 13, 361-1351. A tribute to the people who pioneered and advanced aviation in Canada.

DEVONIAN BOTANIC GARDEN 5 km North on Hwy 60, 987-3054. Authentic Japanese garden, nature trail, 80 acres of connected gardens.

EDMONTON SPACE & SCIENCE CENTRE 451-3344. IMAX Theatre, Margaret Zeidler Star Theatre; Exhibit Galleries, live science demonstrations.

FORT EDMONTON PARK 496-8787. Costumed interpreters, steam train rides, streetcar rides, 1920s miniature golf, antique vehicles, 1846 for trading fort, period shopping. •**SUN-S-MON 6 (10 am-6 pm): STORY-TELLING FESTIVAL:** Explore the tradition of storytelling, step into stories about "Wisdom's Place, Water Magic, and whether we should celebrate our Bad Habits. Limited TIX available. •**SUN 12 (10 am-noon): Run Through Time-5 km Road Race-proceeds go to the Friends of the Environment for the protection and preservation of our natural spaces. Entry forms are available at the Running Room.**

GOVERNMENT HOUSE 12845-102 Ave., 427-2281. •Every SUN, public tours, 1-4 pm.

THE HIGH LEVEL STREETCAR Grandin LRT station-used is originally from Osaka, Japan and features w/real. Travel across the world's highest Streetcar bridge: 11 am-4 pm SUN-FRI & 9 am-4 pm SAT. TIX: \$3 round trip. Until Thanksgiving weekend.

JOHN WALTER MUSEUM Kinsmen Park, 1901 House, Walterdale Hill, 496-2066. **TIMBER & TOOLS SHOPS:** John Walter and the lumber industry at the turn of the century. **FRUITS OF HARVEST:** SUN 5 (1-5 pm); Rhubarb Sunday. •SUN 12: Preserves.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY INTERPRETIVE CENTRE N. Legislature Grounds, 427-7362. Visit Alberta's premier architectural attraction.

THE LOYAL EDMONTON REGIMENT MUSEUM FOUNDATION Prince of Wales Armouries, 10440-108 Ave., 421-9943. Two galleries dedicated to the history of Edmonton's own infantry regiment: Pictures, documents and artifacts depicting all aspects of recruiting, training and overseas service. Open TUE-FRI.

MCKAY AVENUE SCHOOL 10425-99 Ave., 422-1970. Archives and Museum located along the river valley on the Heritage Trail. Stroll in the Victorian-era Park.

MUTTART CONSERVATORY 9626-96A St., 496-8755. One Promenade a Paris. View the highlights of Paris amidst a riot of summer colour.

PROVINCIAL MUSEUM OF ALBERTA 12845-102 Ave., 453-9100, 453-9131, www.pma.edmonton.ab.ca. •1st SUN of ea. month, 1-4 pm: Aboriginal Performers, Upper lounge of learning circle. •3rd SUN of ea. month, 1-4 pm: Aboriginal Artisans: Learning circle, Syncrude Gallery. •Every SAT 3 pm: Aboriginal Videos, Learning Circle, Syncrude Gallery. •**WORLDS OF THE INUIT: THROUGH THE ARTISTS' EYES:** To celebrate the founding of the new territory of Nunavut - a collection of contemporary Inuit art. Until Sept. 6. •**SIQINIQ: UNDER THE SAME SUN:** Themes of diversity and intercultural understanding through the lives of Siuilaan and Agliukkak, two Inuit children living in Nunavut. Until Sept. 6. •**SYNCRUDE CANADA ABORIGINAL PEOPLES GALLERY:** Spans 11,000 years and 500 generations, people of the past and present, recordings, film, lights, artifacts and more. Permanent exhibit. •**BUG ROOM:** NEW ARRIVALS Permanent live invertebrate display, new arrivals from Malaysia. Permanent exhibit. •**THE PHOTOGRAPHIC ARTS SOCIETY OF ALBERTA:** Award-winning photography by the Photographic Arts Society of Alberta. Until Sept. 6. TIX: \$16.50 adults, \$5.50 seniors, \$3 youth (7-17), kids 6 and under free; \$15 family. TUES half price. Open 9 am-5 pm daily.

REYNOLDS ALBERTA MUSEUM Wetaskiwin Hwy T3, 1-800-661-4726 OR 361-1351. Bicycles, cars, farm equipment, reflections of Alberta's transportation history. Open daily until Sept. 6.

RUTHERFORD HOUSE 11153 Saskatchewan Dr. J of A Campus, 427-3995. Costumed interpreters recreate daily household activities. Open 10 am-6 pm. TIX: \$2 adults, \$1 youth senior, \$1 family, kids 6 & under free.

SHAW CONVENTION CENTRE Pedway Level, 9797 Jasper Ave. Canadian Country Music Hall of Honour: Who's who in the Canadian country music scene.

UKRAINIAN CULTURAL HERITAGE VILLAGE 25 mins E. Edmonton Hwy 16, 662-3640. TIX: \$15 family (two adults and kids 7-17); \$6.50 adults, \$5.50 senior, \$3 youth (7-17 yrs); kids under 7 free. Open daily 10 am-6 pm, until Sept. 6. Open 10 am-4 pm Labour Day-Thursdays.

VALLEY ZOO 13315 Buena Vista Rd., 496-6911. Combining the fun of nursery rhymes with the beauty of animals. 9:30 am-6 pm.

Fashion

WEM Phase IV Stage, 433-7164. SUN 5 (2 pm): Top Canadian Swimmers hit the runway National Swim Team Fashion Show featuring the hottest Speedo fashions from California for the pool, gym and active wear.

Kids stuff

CASCADE DOWNS LIBRARY 9 Lake Beauvoir Mall, 15333 Cascade Downs Rd., 496-1804. •EVERY THU: 10:30 am, Time for Twins, Sept. 9-Oct. 7.

EDMONTON ART GALLERY 2 Sir Winston Churchill Sq., 422-6223. •**CHILDREN'S GALLERY: SIGHT UNSEEN:** Tim Folkmann, Until Jan. 2000. •EVERY SUN: Something on Sundays. •ART CLASSES FOR KIDS & YOUTH (4 yrs & up).

EDMONTON MUSICAL THEATRE Wilbick Building, Lower Floor, 10835-124 St., 455-3353. SAT 4 (10 am-5 pm): Under the direction of Dr. Dasha Goody Eamt (an independent, non-profit society) is dedicated to educating its students in the area of musical theatre performance techniques. Adult & Junior (8-14 yrs) musical Theatre classes-fall & winter.

HARCOURT HOUSE 10215-112 St., 426-4180. Kids classes: for the fall classes call for info.

LONDONDRY LIBRARY 110 Londondry Mall, 137 Ave., 66 St., 496-1814. •EVERY FRI (10:30 am & 11:30 am-12 pm) all ages, Creative Crafts, SAT 11 (10 am-11:30 am): Welcome & Review of Summerline Fun.

MILL WOODS LIBRARY 601 Mill Woods Town Centre, 2331-66 St., 496-1818. SAT 18 (2-3 pm): Future Scientists Club. Pre-reg: Sept. 7.

PENNY MCKEE LIBRARY Abbotsfield Shopper's Mall, 3210-118 Ave., 496-7839. •EVERY TUE: 10:15-10:45 am, Time for Twins, Sept. 14-Oct. 19, pre-register by Sept. 7. SAT 11 (2 pm): The Pet Parade.

PROFILES GALLERY #10 Grandin Park Plaza, 22 Sir Winston Churchill Ave., St. Albert, 460-4310. •EVERY SAT (1-4 pm): drop-in and explore themes relating to monthly exhibits. SAT 4: Bread Dough Clay. SAT 11: Play Clay.

RUTHERFORD HOUSE 11153 Saskatchewan Dr., 427-3995, 422-2697. Costumed interpreters recreate daily household activities.

SECOND STORY Mill Woods Town Centre, 2331-66 St., 413-6971. •Story Time: FRI 3 (10:30 am): D'Arcy Hope, SAT 4 (11 am): Linda Craig; (1:30 pm): Gabrielle Kruger. TUE 7 (10:30 am): Desho Atwal. •Family Crafts: SAT 4 (11:30 am): Make a pencil topper. (2-3 pm): Youth Writing Club. All activities are free.

SOUTHGATE LIBRARY Southgate Shopping Centre, 496-1822. •EVERY TUE, 10:15-10:45 am: Sept. 14-Oct. 19, Time for Twins. Pre-reg: Sept. 7. •EVERY WED, 11-11:30 am, Sept. 15-Oct. 20, Preschool Storytime, 3-4 yrs olds. Pre-reg: Sept. 7. •EVERY THU: First Time for Storytime, 10:15-10:45 am, Sept. 16-Oct. 21, 3-5 yrs. Pre-reg: Sept. 7. SAT 11 (10:11-10:30 am): Welcome & Review of Summertime Fun.

STANLEY A. MILNER LIBRARY 7 Sir Winston Churchill Square, 496-7000. •EVERY FRI: Drop-in Film Program, 10:30 am, 6th Fl., (3-5 yrs).

THE TELEPHONE HISTORICAL CENTRE 10437-83 Ave., 433-1010. Set in the original Old Strathcona Telephone Exchange Building (1912).

VALLEY ZOO 133 Buena Vista Rd. (87 Ave.), 496-6911. Open every day, indoor and outdoor exhibits.

Lectures/Meetings

ALBERTA LEGISLATURE 439-7555. TUE (12:15 pm): Public rally in support of the restoration of democracy in Burma. Speakers: Dr. Alice Khin and others.

CASCADE DOWNS LIBRARY 9 Lake Beauvoir Mall, 15333 Cascade Downs Rd., 496-1804. •TUE 7 (7 pm): Shaw@Home Demonstration.

CHILDBIRTH FILM & INFORMATION NIGHT 9924 106 St., RM 203, 425-7993. (WED 8-7:30 pm): Midwifery in Alberta-Film; Guest midwife, Bev O'Brien.

COMMUNITY NEW VENTURES PROGRAM Mennonite Centre for Newcomers, 100, 10010-107A Ave., 424-7709. Learn About Starting a Small Business.

THE COMMUNITY SHAMANIC DRUMMING AND HEALING CIRCLE 475-1826, 951-2324. •EVERY FRI, 7 pm+, everyone interested in learning Shamanic Journeying are welcome.

IMAGES ALBERTA CAMERA CLUB Janzen Nature Centre, 469-9776. Interested in Photography? Meetings every 2nd and 4th THU each month, 8-10 pm.

LESSARD LIBRARY 6104-172 St. (Collingwood Rd.), 496-1871. WED 22 (7-8 pm): Homework Help for Parents or caregivers of school-age kids. Pre-reg starting Sept. 7.

MILL WOODS LIBRARY 601 Mill Woods Town Centre, 2331-66 St., 496-1818. WED 15 (7-8 pm): Scared Still: Hands-on Training. Pre-reg, Sept. 7.

MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY Victoria Centre, 11203-70 St., 452-4661. •Second and last THU of every month a support group for spouses and partners of people who live with Multiple Sclerosis.

PSYCHIC SOCIETY OF ALBERTA 12530-110 Ave., 481-3469. WED 8 (8 pm): Motivational speaker, workshop leader, and consultant, Bernice Flesher-Future Trends in the New Millennium. TIX: \$7 @ door.

T.A.L.E.S. Fort Edmonton Park. SUN 5-6 (1-5 pm): Storytelling Festival; SUN 5-6 (10 am-noon): Workshops and story swap. •SUN 5 (10:30 am-noon): Sarah Ellis: How and Where Real Writers Write. SUN (8 pm): Sunday Night Concert-Egger Bar: Sarah Ellis, Melanie Ray, Kathleen Quinn, Roberta Kennedy, Kathleen Zundel hosted by Krysia Jarmacka. •MON 6 (10:30 am-noon): Melanie Ray: Picture This: Creating the Settings in Your Stories.

TRUC LAM BUDDHIST MONASTERY 11328-97 St. •EVERY FRI, 6:30-7:30 pm. Learn Buddhist meditation and relaxation techniques. Free, non-denominational classes taught in English.

VISUAL LINKS 200, 5041 Calgary Trail N., 413-3197. Meetings •EVERY WED, 7:30-8:30 pm: How to make money on the Internet.

WEST END TOASTMASTERS MEETING 10451-170 St., Rm 112, Info: Jerry @ 472-4911. •EVERY TUE: Personal Growth and development in communication and leadership. Listening skills, appropriate feedback, public speaking abilities done in a friendly environment, two-hour meetings.

WINSPEAR CENTRE 429-1992, ext. 238. Tours of the concert hall. Learn about the architecture, acoustics and backstage facilities.

IDYLWYLDE LIBRARY *496-1808, THU 9 (10 am-noon): Book Club.

LA PIAZZA 10458B-82 Ave. •EVERY SUN: Open Stage: Poetry Readings, acoustic music.

ORLANDO BOOKS 10123-100 St. •432-7633. Last THU each month.

STANLEY A. MILNER LIBRARY Winston Churchill Square, 3rd fl. Boardroom, 496-7000. •Edmonton Chapter of JSNA: Meet on the 1st Sat. of every month.

THE WRITE GROUP Block 1, Strathcona, 104 St., 82 Ave., 413-0951. Meeting every second THU.

Live comedy

CRISTAL LOUNGE 2nd Fl. Ave., 421-7861. •EVERY SUN: Amateur Comedy Showcase. Pre-screening/auditions. •EVERY THU: City City.

FARGOS 10307-82 Ave., 433-4212. •Live Yuk Yuk's comedians.

IRON HORSE EATERY & WATERING HOLE 8101-103 St., 438-1236. •EVERY WED: Classic Comedy Showcases with the Atomic Improv Co.

SIDETRACK CAFE 10333 100 St., 421-3126. •EVERY SUN: Variety Show with the Atomic Improv Co.

YUK YUKS WEM, 481-9926. •EVERY WED: Hypnotist Sebastian Steel.

Special events

CITY HALL City Room, City Hall, 489-4840. SAT 11 (11 am-2 pm): The Taoist Tai Chi Society, Edmonton Branch celebrate International Awareness Day.

JOVANNI CABOT PARK 95 St. Ave., 474-4747. MON 6 (11:30 am-3 pm): The Edmonton & District Council host the 10th Annual "If I Could Fly" Barbecue for the unemployed an 11 am. FREE.

LATIN FEST '99 104 St., 102 Ave., 506-5000.

SEE NEXT PAGE

Bulletin Board

Kart for kart's sake

There's a scene in François Truffaut's *Day for Night* in which a temperamental young matinee idol, played by Jean-Pierre Léaud, is rejected by the older actress he has a crush on and goes missing the day one of his most important scenes has to be filmed. "Where could he be?" the director and crew wonder. They comb the city in their search, and eventually find him obsessively doing laps at the local go-kart course.

The scene was supposed to emphasize the character's lack of maturity, but kart racing itself has certainly come of age in the 25 years since the film's release. For one thing, top Formula One and IndyCar drivers such as Greg Moore, Emerson Fittipaldi and the late Ayrton Senna all got their start in karting, and some of them continue to compete in the sport today.

And for another, organizations like the Edmonton and District Kart Racing Association have found karting to be a powerful way to raise money for worthy charities. The third annual Street Thunder Mini Grand Prix takes place this weekend, September 4 and 5, in Churchill Square. Over 125 go-karts in 13 different classes will attain speeds of over 120 kph in their pursuit of go-kart gold and to raise funds for the Arthritis Society.

And as an added attraction, Vue Weekly's very own production manager, Terry Cox, will be risking his own neck (and the next few weeks') issues of *Vue Weekly* as he takes to

However, there's an ominous note struck by this exhibition as well: organizers also hope to warn visitors that infectious diseases such as tuberculosis, smallpox and polio pose a threat, even though most of us think of them as relics of the past.

The opening reception takes place September 8 at 7 p.m., two after taking in that last part of the exhibition, you may want to stop by and eat the hors d'oeuvres. *Vue Weekly* knows where those trays have been.

To get your event listed on our weekly Bulletin Board, fax your info to 426-2889 or e-mail it to bulletinboard@vive.ab.ca.



What's the story, morning glory? What's the word, hummingbird? What's the scoop, Betty Boop? **Sarah Ellis** may know better than most of us the answer to those questions; she's one of the professional storytellers taking part in the 11th Annual T.A.L.E.S. Storytelling Festival this weekend at Fort Edmonton Park. The Vancouver-based writer and librarian is the author of several award-winning children's books, and will be offering audiences a series of storytelling sessions on the tantalizing theme of "Bad Habits." (What's your habit, bunny rabbit?)

SOCIETY 6th F., Edmonton Public Library, 7 Winston Churchill Sq., 451-2043. **FALL CREATIVE WRITING CLASSES:** The Alexandra Writers' Centre, Edmonton Chapter, is offering two different 8-week writing workshops beginning the week of Sept. 20: Introductory Creative Writing and Freefall Writing.

CANADIAN MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION 414-6300. Self Advocacy and Leadership Training Program for adults living with a mental health issue. Beginning Sept. 13.

THE CITADEL THEATRE SCHOOL 428-2113. Classes for youth (4-12 yrs); classes for teens (13-18 yrs); Classes for adults (19 yrs+). Fall Term: SAT: Sept. 18-20, 11 or MON-THU: Sept. 20-23; DEC: 13-16. Winter Term: SAT: Jan 8-Mon, 18 or Mon-Thu: Jan. 3-6. Mar. 20-23.

DEVONIAN BOTANIC GARDEN 5 km N of Devon on Hwy 60, 15 min from Edmonton. 403-260-4450. **MICROSTRUCTURE COURSES:** Japanese Gastronomy. A beginner's Course Sept. 13, 20 & 27, Oct. 4, 18 & 25 (6 Mors) 9:30 pm. **ARTS & CRAFTS COURSES:** Building a Tunnel Arbour: Sept. 3, 7-10 pm. **Full Colours:** A beginner's Photography Experience: Sept. 13, 20 & 27, Oct. 4 (4 Mors) 7:30 pm.

GRANT MACMILLAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE City Centre Campus, 497-5082. **Minerva:** Fall Semester History Series—for adults 50+, #497-5188. Bachelor of Applied Human Service Administration, #497-4087. FREE two-hour workshop: **A Money Plan...in 5 Easy Steps:** Arts Outreach fall trip to New Orleans: an experience, hear jazz musicians, see art and architecture and fest. Nov. 7-14 (#497-4303). **New Holistic Course Offerings:** Hawaiian Huna Kine, Homeopathy, Neurolinguistic Programming (#497-5188).

HARCOURT HOUSE 10215-112 St., 426-4120. Adult classes and workshops this fall. phone for more information.

THE MARKETPLACE ART SCHOOL Westmount Shopping Centre. Individual and group classes in acrylic, oil, pastels, and wood carving. Drop by for information.

MENNONTINE CENTRE FOR NEWCOMERS 424-7709. Contact Jump Start at the Community New Ventures Business Centre. If you are 18-29 yrs of age and have a good business idea, #424-7709. Engineer or engineering techs from other countries join in an Engineering Tech Intergration Project for civil and mechanical field, starting Sept.

MERRYWOOD DANCE & CREATIVE ARTS ACADEMY Romanian Hall, 9005-132 Ave., & Central Lions Seniors Centre, 11113-113 St., 454-5003. Now taking registrations for fall and winter classes. Fall: Sept. 4-Dec. 18; Winter: Jan. 12-June 10. Classes for the young of heart, 3 yrs to seniors.

RABBIT HILL SKI CLUB 908-0923. Sun 12 (10 am-2 pm): Annual registration events (4 yrs and up). Find out about alpine ski racing programs for kids and adults.

STAGE POLARIS 7114-98 St., 432-9542. Stage Polaris Academy of Drama is taking registrations for their fall and winter classes. Fall classes start Sept. 11 and run until Dec. 16. Winter term starts Jan. 8, 2000-May 11, 2000. For ages 4-10 yrs old.

UNITED UKRAINIAN CANADIANS 424-2037. *TREMBITA POLK CHOIRS REHEARSAL: Community Choir—no experience nec. (16-65 + years). Every WED., until May 17 @ Ukrainian Centre, 11018-97 St. *A.U.C. School of Ukrainian Folk Dance & Music, parents night (information for the Dance School Season), FRI, Sept. 10, 7 pm.

WORKSHOPS 11748-95 St., 481-3451. SAT (4-8 pm): Aboriginal Talent singers or comedians.

WILSON LEGION Canteen, 10416-104th St.: Rock & Roll Impersonators, no cover charge.

VIPASSANA MEDITATION Edie or Robert, 477-8770. Vipassana Meditation course as taught by S.N. Goenka. Sept. 2-13. Info @ 222.dhamma.org.

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Heavy alt/industrial cover act need m/f keyboardist, drummer & guitarist. Rob Zombie, Nin, Ministry, Sisters of Mercy...Send bio & tape. Private Hate Machine, Suite 334-11215 Jasper Ave., Edm., TMS 015.

An experienced DJ needed for heavy rap metal band, mixing, scratching and ambience. Experience a must. Ph Sid 984-4660.

DIVE seek singer with incredible voice (stage presence and singing ability an asset). Ph Nick 988-6364 or e-mail: greg@mancap.com.

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help wanted

Alberta's Forests are Burning, endangered species disappearing—make a difference. Canvass for WCF. Please phone Nick @ 420-1001 after 2 pm.

VWB017-00010826-1009

Downtown alternative night club seeks bus and port staff. Please fax resume Attn: Wayne @ 424-3175.

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Classifieds



Copping a feel

Dear Sasha: For four months I was away at the police academy and my sex life with my girlfriend had dramatically dropped due to my only being able to see her on weekends. To make matters worse, she's taking a six-week European vacation and still has three weeks to go. I am now a police officer and women are really becoming interested in me. Because I'm a policeman they're always asking me questions and flirting with me. I love my girlfriend very much, but I also love sex. I've had five partners and since I'm in a long-term relationship and will probably marry this one, my friends say, "You better get it now before it's too late." Could you explain to me why women are becoming really interested in me and why is it that when my girlfriend is in town I don't get these urges to cheat? I know people say women are attracted to men in uniform, but is it really true? —ANDREW

Dear Andrew: I know I'm going to get a ton of letters telling me how dense I am, but could it be that you don't get those urges because when your girlfriend is in town you're getting fucked? And I am loving your buddies' logic. People who believe that fooling around on their wives is different from fooling around on their girlfriends become the type of people who, once they're married, are able to convince themselves it's okay to fool around on their wives because she hasn't put out in a while or she got fat or today is Friday. Get it now, get it later, who cares? You'd still be a lying... ahem, pig. And don't talk to me about uniforms. I've got it so hot for that Darth Maul dude right now I'd blow Yoda to get at him.

Clean and jerk

Dear Sasha: Does a dildo have to be disinfected after each use? Wondering this cuz I'm thinking that that's what gave me this infection I've got now. See, the toy wasn't mine so I don't

really know where it's been and what it's been into! Thanks. —KORKY

Dear Korky: Does a penis need a condom each time? Yes. Why? Because God knows where it's been and what it's been into. The same goes for dildos. All shared sex toys must be washed thoroughly (if it's mechanical, don't immerse it, of course) or covered in a condom prior to use because they can get hold of bacteria which can cause an infection.

Rimshot!

Dear Sasha: How popular is rimming in heterosexual and homosexual sex? I am fascinated by it, but have never received it or done it to a partner. Is rimming a safe practice? —HOWARD

Dear Howard: I suppose the name, so unpleasantly reminiscent of the toilet bowl, may put people off, but I'm sure that many who indulge in oral to anal activity don't know even know that "rimming" is the accepted term for it.

As far as safety goes, anal action is high on the list of dangerous sex practices, since it's an area where tears can happen simply from a bowel movement. If you're with a partner who you know is STD free and your concern is an obvious lack of interest in dining on a dingleball, a scrub with a washcloth will do the trick. A good thing to keep around for oral to anal contact are unscented baby wipes, not just for the purpose of eliminating odour, but also to get rid of that scrumptious, bacteria-infested fecal matter which can spread to the vagina. This is no guarantee that bacteria won't find its way onto a finger, penis or tongue, so just take care when you're making the switch from anal to vaginal oral stimulation. If you're worried about other infections (e.g., herpes—which often occurs around the anus—or HIV), then cut open a condom and place it over the area.

I can understand your fascination with this particular orifice, given the myriad of receptive nerves in that region. Unfortunately, some people are more apprehensive of rimjobs because they simply can't get over the fact that they shit out of there. Meanwhile, oral-vaginal sex is perfectly acceptable, and look at the icky squirming screeching little yardapes that come down that pipe. ☺

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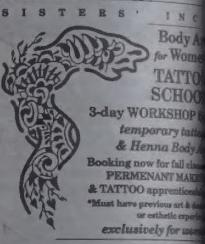
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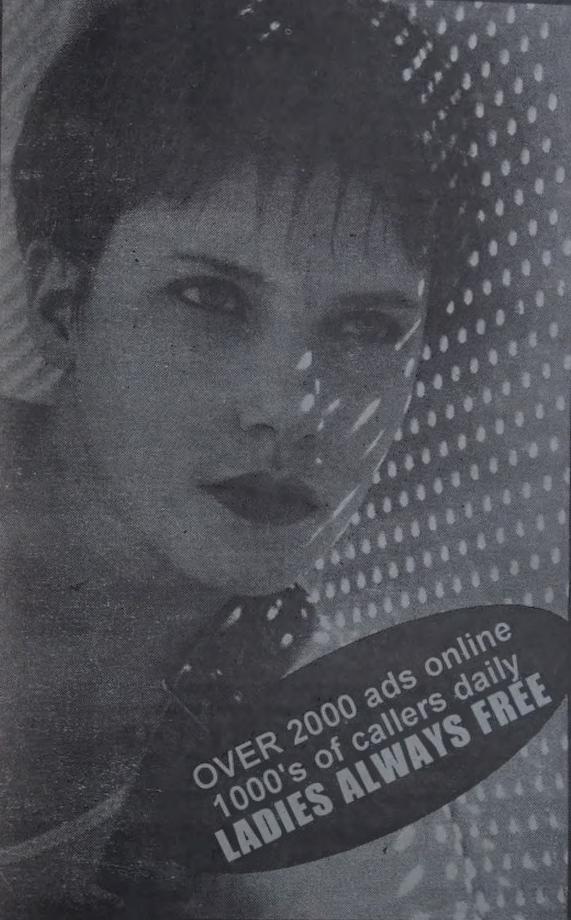
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